

Former equerry dies as Klosters avalanche brings tragedy to royal party

Prince Charles' friend killed skiing

By Andrew Morgan, London, and Alan McGregor, Geneva

The Prince of Wales vainly tried to save the life of one of his closest friends yesterday as Major Hugh Lindsay, a former equerry to the Queen, was killed during an avalanche accident near the Swiss resort of Klosters.

Another close friend of the Prince, Mrs Patti Palmer-Tomkinson, was injured.

The Prince and the other members of the royal skiing group, including Mrs Charles Palmer-Tomkinson, a Swiss police officer and local guide, rushed to the couple and tried to dig them out. The Prince wept openly when he realized that the officer was dead.

The accident occurred under the Gotschnawang, off the piste, in between the Wang and Drosobel runs

when an avalanche started above the royal group at about 3pm. A report on Swiss Radio said that there would be an inquiry into the events. An official police announcement said that the party was skiing down the open Gotschnawang when the accident happened.

A spokeswoman at the Klosters tourist office said they "were not on a prepared marked trail".

There were conflicting reports on conditions. The avalanche happened after six hours of blazing sunshine had begun to melt heavy snow which fell earlier this week.

The Swiss Federal Institute for Snow and Avalanches had issued a general notification earlier this week that heavy snowfalls over the weekend had produced conditions with risk of avalanches. But there had been no particular alert relating to the specific area at Klosters. Major Lindsay was the twelfth person killed by an avalanche in the Swiss Alps this winter.

Herr Hans Leu, the manager of the luxury Aba Hotel in Klosters described the day as "the best of the season so far" and said it was bitterly cold and held no hint of possible avalanches.

The group were all said to be wearing electronic "bleepers", in case of an avalanche, which are used to locate people buried under snow. The Swiss guide with them is acknowledged as one of the world's leading experts on Alpine conditions.

When the avalanche struck, all in the group took avoiding action apart from Major Lindsay and Mrs Patti Palmer-Tomkinson, who were submerged under the wall of snow.

Major Lindsay and Mrs Palmer-Tomkinson were taken by helicopter to a hospital at the nearby resort of Davos, where he was found to be dead on arrival. Mrs Palmer-Tomkinson had sustained serious leg injuries.

The Princess of Wales and the Duchess of York, who had a minor fall earlier in the day, were not on the slopes at the time of the accident, but resting at their chalet in the valley of Wolfjanz on the outskirts of Klosters. The royal party immediately made plans to return to Britain.

Major Lindsay, aged 34, was an experienced skier and remained a close friend of both the Prince and Princess of Wales. He regularly accompanied them on their

annual spring skiing holiday to Switzerland.

He was equerry to the Queen from 1983 to 1986, when he returned to his regiment, the 9/12 Royal Lancers.

The Queen and Prince Philip heard the news of the accident while attending a tennis exhibition preview at the Queen's Club in London. The royal couple knew Major Lindsay well and were said to be deeply distressed at his death. His wife, Sarah Brennan, who is pregnant, still works in the Buckingham Palace press office.

The Prince was said to be deeply distraught at the accident. One member of the royal party said: "This is undoubtedly the biggest tragedy of his life since the assassination of Lord Mountbatten by the IRA in 1979."

The accident happened near the spot where Mr Charles Palmer-Tomkinson broke both his legs two years ago and his father died in 1953. Mr Palmer-Tomkinson's brothers, Christopher and Jeremy, are English skiing champions.

The couple's home is in the Hampshire village of Dummer, virtually next door to where Major Ronald Ferguson, the father of the Duchess of York, lives.

Major Ferguson spoke last night of his shock at hearing the news on his car radio as he drove home from work.

"It is the most appalling tragedy and I feel desperately sorry for Major Lindsay's wife."

"I knew Major Lindsay well and he was a good friend. He was a most charming man, extremely good at his job and an excellent soldier. He was well liked by everybody who knew him."

As he arrived home at Dummer Down Farm in his red BMW car, Major Ferguson said he had not spoken to his daughter in Klosters but had heard she was safe and well.

He was not trying to get in touch with her, but had no doubt she would telephone him at home. Mrs Susan Ferguson, his wife, said: "It is tragic news. Patti and Charles are very close friends of ours and we are waiting anxiously to hear how serious Patti's injuries are."

The couple have three children, two at school at Sherbourne in Dorset. The Wang is regarded as one of the most dangerous ski runs in Europe. Gotschnawang, which is reached by two-stage cable car from Klosters, is best known for its steep bumpy runs and the impossibly steep Gotschnawang. Because of its

Continued on page 22, col 1

Palace staff comfort widow

By David Sapsted

The pregnant wife of Major Hugh Lindsay, a former equerry to the Queen and a close friend of the Prince and Princess of Wales, was being comforted by staff at Buckingham Palace last night.

Major Lindsay, who returned to full-time Army duties in 1986 after three years as equerry, married Miss Sarah Brennan, an assistant press officer at Buckingham Palace, in July last year. The Prince and Princess made a surprise appearance at the wedding.

A friend last night described Major Lindsay, aged 34, as a man full of fun. "He was a career Army officer and a damned good man. He was an excellent skier," he said.

In his time away from his regiment, the 9th/12th Royal Lancers (Prince of Wales's), Major Lindsay played in a seven-man blues band, called Sweatband.

Major Lindsay was commissioned in 1973 and served in Oman, Germany and Northern Ireland. He had been adjutant of his regiment and, before his appointment as equerry, was second in command of a regimental squadron with the British Army of the Rhine (BAOR). He was educated at Millfield School, Somerset.

The major was holidaying in Klosters in 1986 with the Prince and Princess when the then Miss Sarah Brennan made one of her first appearances with the Royal Family.

Mrs Lindsay, also aged 34, is expecting her baby in May. The couple set up home in Esher after their marriage.

The woman injured in the tragedy, Mrs Patti Palmer-Tomkinson, is a mutual friend of both the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Duke and Duchess of York.

Her husband, Mr Charles Palmer-Tomkinson, farms in Dummer, Hampshire, the home village of the Duchess of York. The couple have often holidayed with the Prince and Princess of Wales at an Alpine chalet.

The Duchess of York's stepmother, Mrs Sarah Ferguson, said at the family home in Dummer last night: "It is tragic news. They are very close friends of ours and we are waiting anxiously to hear how serious Patti's injuries are."



Above: Major Hugh Lindsay, the former Equerry to the Queen, who was killed at Klosters yesterday, with his wife Sarah at Royal Ascot last year. Below left: this week's picture on the ski slopes of the Prince and Princess of Wales with the Duchess of York. Below right: their close friend, Mrs Charles Palmer Tomkinson, who broke her leg in the avalanche.

Thatcher challenged on 'clash' over £

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

Mr Neil Kinnock leapt in yesterday to exploit the apparently growing differences between Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Nigel Lawson, claiming they were in "fundamental disagreement and confusion" over the conduct of economic policy.

The Government has been embarrassed by the clear difference of line between the Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the eve of the Budget.

While the Chancellor is said by Conservative MPs to be convinced of the value of a "managed float" of leading currencies with some

intervention to regulate the market, Mrs Thatcher has been insisting in the Commons this week on allowing the full blast of market forces to operate.

She has in effect overruled the Chancellor by insisting that there can be no strong intervention in foreign exchange.

Parliament. The four men already facing charges are Ernest Saunders, the former Guinness chairman; Roger Seelig, former director of Morgan Grenfell; Sir Jack Lyons, and Mr Gerald Ronson, head of the Heron Corporation. In the United States, Mr Antony Parnes, a City stockbroker, is fighting an attempt to extradite him to Britain.

By Mr Samuel Brittan, sought to exploit the differences by challenging Mrs Thatcher's comment in an interview on December 9 that "keeping the pound in line with the Deutschmark is likely to be, over the medium term, a pretty good anti-inflationary discipline".

That comment implied an exchange rate target for the pound and a willingness to indulge in some management of the currency.

But Mrs Thatcher, who has differed from her Chancellor for some time over whether Britain should join the Euro-

pean Monetary System - she says that it is not yet the right time - is against any exchange rate targets which could inhibit the Government's freedom of manoeuvre.

The Cabinet's economic committee discussed the matter yesterday and in the Commons, responding to Mr Kinnock's challenge, Mrs Thatcher said: "The Chancellor and I are absolutely agreed that the paramount objective is to keep inflation down and the Chancellor has never said that aiming for greater exchange rate stability means total immobility."

Continued on page 22, col 7

Lord Spens faces Guinness charges

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Lord Spens, the former merchant banker, was yesterday arrested by detectives investigating the Guinness affair and charged with four counts involving the purchase of more than two million shares.

Lord Spens, the fifth City figure to be arrested as a result of the investigation, was released on police bail and will

appear at Bow Street Magistrates' Court, central London, today. The charges relate to the purchase of Guinness shares by the merchant bank, Henry Ansbacher, where Lord Spens was head of corporate finance, in 1986, and allege a conspiracy to create a false market in shares, false accounting, and unlawful support in share dealing.

Lord Spens, aged 45, was arrested at his home at Gould, Kent, at 9am and taken to Holborn police station.

The four men already facing charges are Ernest Saunders, the former Guinness chairman; Roger Seelig, former director of Morgan Grenfell; Sir Jack Lyons, and Mr Gerald Ronson, head of the Heron Corporation. In the United States, Mr Antony Parnes, a City stockbroker, is fighting an attempt to extradite him to Britain.



Lords Spens: arrested by fraud squad detectives.

Waldheim apology for Austria

From Richard Bassett Vienna

President Waldheim of Austria apologized last night for crimes committed by Austrian Nazis during the war.

In an emotional television broadcast, Dr Waldheim denied accusations that Austria as a nation could be blamed for the events of 50 years ago. "Of course there is no such thing as collective guilt," he said. He added: "Nevertheless, I should like to apologize deeply for Nazi crimes committed by Austrians."

Dr Waldheim was speaking to the nation following threats by two Socialist ministers to boycott today's official ceremonies - commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Nazi annexation of Austria - if the President exercised his traditional prerogative of giving an address.

SOE man's fate, page 8

Security alert for bombers' funerals

By Richard Ford, Belfast, Richard Wigg, Gibraltar, Harry Debelline, Madrid, and Tony Dawe

A huge security operation was being planned on both sides of the Irish border last night to prepare for the return tomorrow of the bodies of the three IRA terrorists shot dead in Gibraltar by the SAS.

The Royal Ulster Constabulary and the Garda are expecting the IRA to orchestrate three days of demonstrations beginning in Dublin tomorrow, when the bodies will arrive aboard a direct scheduled flight from Málaga, in southern Spain.

Police and security forces in Britain are also on the alert during what officers describe as a "high-risk period" when the IRA will be seeking to strike at key targets.

The tension in Ireland was increased by claims in Republican News, a Provisional IRA propaganda sheet, that the terrorists were "dedicated soldiers in a people's army with

limited resources, and totally dependent for support on the Irish working class."

Plans for Monday's funerals in Belfast, which the IRA is certain to attempt to turn into a paramilitary occasion, were going ahead yesterday after a relative of one of the dead and a Sinn Féin official visited Gibraltar.

Mr Terrence Farrell, the brother of Mairead Farrell, the woman who led the IRA unit, and Mr Joe Austin identified the bodies in the Royal Naval Hospital mortuary.

They insisted that the bodies should not touch down on British soil, so they will be driven to Málaga airport for the flight to Dublin.

The Spanish authorities sifted through details of 89,000 Britons living in Spain to determine whether any of them might be a target

Expenses 'fiddle' cost MoD millions of pounds

By Martin Fletcher Political Reporter

The Ministry of Defence was admonished in the strongest terms yesterday for failing to take disciplinary action after the discovery of expenses fiddles costing millions of pounds.

The all-party Commons Public Accounts Committee said it was astonished the ministry had taken no action against either the civilian personnel who made the fraudulent claims or the officers who connived in the racket.

Rejecting the ministry's excuses, the MPs described its inertia as "extremely serious and disturbing". Government departments should maintain effective controls to prevent fraud, and should mount a prompt

investigation where these fail so that legal action can be taken.

"We consider vigorous action particularly vital when the observance of expected public standards rests on the truthfulness of the claimant and the integrity of his supervisors."

The fraudulent travel and subsistence claims were submitted by 90 civilian ordnance searchers whose job is to scour ranges for live explosives. A MoD police investigation had established that between June and September 1984 the fraud amounted to £203,416, but the committee concluded that the cumulative cost of the fraud over several years would have been "millions rather than hundreds of thousands of pounds".

The ministry sent the most clear cut

cases to the Director of Public Prosecutions who decided early in 1986 that criminal proceedings could not be sustained. The ministry then consulted the Treasury solicitor and by October 1986 was ready to press disciplinary charges.

At that point a senior officer questioned whether the cases were strong enough, and whether it was worth the amount of time and effort involved.

The lapse of time would make it difficult to corroborate evidence, and the ministry's case would be further weakened by the failure of military officers to deter the claims.

Without consulting ministers, it was decided to drop all action and instead warn the searchers.

The committee said the DPP's conclusion on criminal charges was

"no real bar to the MoD taking internal disciplinary action... in view of the fact that rules had clearly been broken and duties neglected."

"Nor do we consider that the time and effort involved in disciplinary action are acceptable reasons for not pursuing it in a case of such wholesale departure from the standards expected of public officials."

The Government sought yesterday to quell the outcry caused by Wednesday's disclosure that nearly a half of the £8.2 billion annual defence procurement budget is consumed each year in "unforeseen costs". Lord Treigarn, Procurement minister at the Ministry of Defence, said urgent remedial steps had been taken. Committee of Public Accounts: Ministry of Defence: Fraudulent Expenses Claims (Stationery Office, £3.20).

WIN £108,000

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator

Portfolio Accumulator resumes today after technical problems yesterday, for which we apologise. Yesterday's daily prize of £4,000 has been added to the Accumulator fund, which now stands at £108,000. Portfolio offers two chances: the daily prize of £4,000, or - if your number is higher than the daily total - the contents of the Accumulator fund. Portfolio list, page 29

INSIDE

Pharaohs' hoard

How the hunt for missing Egyptian treasures was launched at Highclere Page 13

TOMORROW

From Glyndebourne to Edinburgh, from Salzburg to Bayreuth: The Times put-out guide to this year's British and European Festivals.

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## NEWS ROUNDUP

## Younger brother of Bee Gees dies

Andy Gibb, the younger brother of the Bee Gees pop group, died yesterday five days after his thirtieth birthday. He was admitted to hospital suffering from stomach pains earlier this week.

Thames Valley Police said that Mr Gibb died at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, and that the cause of his death had not yet been confirmed. A post-mortem examination is being held today.

A pop singer in his own right, Andy Gibb never lived up to the promise of his older brothers, Maurice, Barry and Robin, who created one of the top groups of the 1970s. He was almost penniless and had appeared before a bankruptcy hearing in Florida last autumn.

In an interview after his dismissal from a job on an American television show, he said that he had had a nervous breakdown combined with a drug habit. "I gave up on everything and was on cocaine for a month, spending money to the point of financial crisis."

Obituary, page 16

## LWT will Saboteurs hold talks convicted

The production unions have agreed to meet London Weekend Television management to discuss proposals for radical changes in working conditions.

The proposals are believed to include the loss of up to 200 staff.

The meeting will be on March 22 with the Association of Cinematograph Technicians and Allied Technicians, the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union and the Broadcasting and Entertainment Trades Alliance, the studio staff union.

## Student politics plea

A right-wing Conservative group launched a national campaign yesterday to prevent student unions giving money to extremist political organizations.

The Monday Club Students Group wants its members to take action to prevent student union funds being used to support causes which it claims have nothing to do with students. It is issuing guidelines on how to prevent payments by taking out a High Court injunction if necessary.

The move comes after a court ruling last November in which Mr Adrian Gray, aged 31, a chemistry student at Brunel University, Uxbridge, west London, won an injunction banning his student union from giving money to the campaign against the Abortion Bill.

## Soldiers in Red Devil fatal crash killed

An Army investigation was started yesterday into the death of two soldiers and the injury of four others when a Land-Rover crashed during a training exercise.

The accident happened as the six servicemen from the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, stationed at North Tidworth, Wiltshire, were travelling along a road across training ground near Sennybridge, Powys.

The dead men were named as Sergeant Ian Hunter, aged 38, and Staff Sergeant Paul Gregg, aged 32. The Army said no other vehicle was involved.

## Pirate radio charges

Seven people accused of helping to keep two pirate radio stations on the air were sent for trial at Maidstone Crown Court by Sittingbourne magistrates in Kent yesterday.

But three charges against *Time Out*, the magazine, were withdrawn. It had been accused of illegally publishing details of programmes on Laser 558 and Radio Caroline.

## Jews send dossier on prize winner

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Editor

Documentary evidence in support of allegations against Dr Immanuel Khan, the winner of the £20,000 Templeton Prize for Religion this year, is expected to be sent to the panel of judges.

Details of the allegations of right wing links and anti-Semitism were passed yesterday by the Board of Deputies of British Jews to the Nassau headquarters of Sir

John Templeton, the head of the Templeton Foundation, with a demand that the award be "reconsidered". The judges for the world's largest annual prize include the Prince of Wales, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, the Duke of Norfolk, and the Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood.

In a letter to the Templeton Foundation, Mr Hyam Pinner, the secretary general of the Board of Deputies, said that the World Muslim Congress, of which Dr Khan is director, financed and distributed anti-Jewish books written by William Grunstad, a former high ranking member of the American Nazi Party.

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## Watchdogs expose Whitehall's wasteful ways

By George Hill

This week's three reprimands for the Ministry of Defence from public spending watchdogs are only the most recent of a steady flow of cases of wasted spending.

Yesterday's rebuke from the Commons Public Accounts Committee for having taken no action against a £203,000 expenses racket involving 90 civilian ordnance searchers, with the connivance of officers concerned, came shortly after a report from the National Audit Office expressing scepticism about the £96 million predicted savings over the transfer of the Royal Dockyards to commercial management, and the disclosure that nearly half the £8 million spent annually on defence procurement is consumed in "unforeseen costs".

In the few months since Parliament resumed after the summer recess, the Public Accounts Committee and the National Audit Office have identified hundreds of millions of pounds wasted or di-

verted from their intended purpose, promised savings which failed to materialize and losses written off after fraud or mismanagement.

The Ministry of Defence has let £144,650,000 slip through its fingers. Other departments have lost £1,387 million, it has been reported in the past few months.

Even these sums appear minor beside the £6,900 million worth of land which the MoD holds on to in spite of it being "significantly under-used", according to a report by the Comptroller and Auditor General last May. Another £25 billion of property, retained by local government up and down the country, was said by the Audit Commission last month to be surplus to their needs.

Last week the Public Accounts Committee accused the Department of Transport of lacking "commitment, energy and drive" in its efforts to prevent damage of more than £600 million a year inflicted on Britain's roads by heavy lorries,

up to 20 per cent of which are overloaded.

Last month the committee accused the Department of Health and Social Security of having failed to recover £87 million in overpaid benefits, and estimated that overpayments could amount to at least £55 million every year. The department does not even keep central records of the level of incorrect payments, which the committee said were essential.

Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Transport, claimed last month that county councils had diverted £148 million intended for roads into other projects.

A team of 40 from the Ministry of Defence's police has been investigating contracts worth £3.5 billion, placed with GEC/Marconi over the past 10 years. A number of defence contractors have paid back £30 million in recent months to the MoD for "unjustified charges", including at least 15 cases in which contractors had "manifestly failed"

to provide correct information.

During the past three years, 27 cases of potential fraud have been passed by the MoD to its serious crimes squad, compared to nine in the previous eight years.

In January the National Audit Office said the cost of keeping British troops in West Germany could be cut by millions through efficiency savings and policy changes. The direct costs of keeping the troops in Germany are £255 million annually, but additional costs connected with their dependents are four times as great.

The Home Office reduced revenues to the Exchequer by £19 million last year by introducing a new system of levies from independent television companies without any analysis of the effect of the change on revenues. There was a significant risk that the losses would be repeated, Mr John Bourn, the new Comptroller and Auditor General, said in January.

It was revealed earlier this year

that the Ministry of Defence paid an arms dealer £450,000 after it cancelled a contract to sell him 2,000 Browning pistols, worth about £200 each, at £7 each.

In December the Public Accounts Committee returned to the MoD's "long and trivial dispute" with the Department of Health and Social Security, by which MoD hospitals are under-used and have surplus staff at a cost of £12 million a year while national health waiting lists rise.

The National Health Service, too, was censured, in November, for wasting up to £40 million a year by under-using operating theatres. It agreed, though, that running the theatres at capacity would cause health authorities severe budgeting problems.

Local education authorities were criticized in November for losing £430 million by failing to reduce teacher numbers fast enough to keep up with the reduction in school rolls.

## Dockyards management change-over was 'flawed'

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Flaws in the Government's justification for last year's introduction of commercial management at the two royal dockyards were exposed in a report yesterday by the National Audit Office.

The findings brought an angry reaction from opposition MPs, especially as the scheme was bitterly opposed at the time.

The audit office report expressed deep scepticism about the Government's projected savings of £96 million over seven years from the change at the yards, Devonport in Plymouth and Rosyth in Fife, particularly as the Royal Navy had severely cut back on refits and other work.

It suggested that the Ministry of Defence had failed to take into account preparatory costs totalling many millions of pounds when it put the case for commercial management.

It also disclosed there was near chaos around vesting day, the change over, last April.

MPs on the Commons public accounts committee intend to grill ministry officials next week on the report's findings.

Plans to introduce commercial management were strenuously opposed by a wide group.

Yesterday Dr David Owen, Social Democratic Party leader, and MP for Plymouth Devonport, said the report was "devastating" and vindicated all earlier criticism.

Dr Owen said the Commons had been consistently misled by government ministers claiming bogus cost savings, that the commercial managers had been led up the garden path to tender for non-existent work, and that the long-suffering workforces had been treated even more shabbily than appeared at the time.

It was "a monstrous saga of managerial ineptitude in the MoD".

Mr Martin O'Neill, Opposition defence spokesman, said: "Our worst fears have been confirmed. When considering the legislation we said the objectives were totally unrealistic but we didn't appreciate at the time what shipboard accountancy practices the MoD was using."

Mr Jack Dromey, national secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, who led the campaign against commercial management, said the report confirmed his repeated predictions that the true costs had been underestimated and the expected savings overestimated.

The audit office report concluded that there was "considerable doubt" over whether estimated savings of £96 million could be achieved at the Rosyth and Devonport dockyards unless the commercial managers achieved greater improvements in efficiency than originally expected.

Given that they had to do so against a background of significant reductions in work sent to the yards by the Navy and with commercial orders in short supply it was a "formidable task".

The report seriously questioned the costings on which the ministry supported its decision to bring in commercial management.

The costings failed to take into account bills totalling £28 million incurred by the Ministry of Defence in preparing the yards for commercial management; wide discrepancies in the costs allocated to the use of ministry assets; and the loss of efficiency in the yards themselves as they were prepared for a "privatization" to which the workforce was deeply hostile.

On the change over day various control systems were not in place, commercial managers had too little time working alongside the former MoD managers, experienced staff had been taken away to work on other programmes such as Trident, records of work in progress were incomplete, and large quantities of ministry material in the yards were unaccounted for.

National Audit Office, Ministry of Defence, Transfer of the Royal Dockyards to Commercial Management (Stationery Office, £4.10).

underfunding since 1981, which the MPs estimated at £1.8 billion.

Both Mrs Thatcher and Mr Moore dismissed that figure as "arbitrary", but in its report yesterday the committee said the only arbitrary aspect of its recommendation was that it was less than the £1.8 billion shortfall identified.

The committee had opted to ask for "a relatively modest sum" to be spent specifically on maintaining property and equipment, developing care in the community and installing the information technology

that the Ministry of Defence paid an arms dealer £450,000 after it cancelled a contract to sell him 2,000 Browning pistols, worth about £200 each, at £7 each.

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## Hostage is reunited with family



Mr Peter Coleridge, the Oxford relief worker who was held hostage for six days in the Lebanon, reunited with his wife, Angela, and children, Jessie, aged 12 (right), Sarah, aged 11, and Edward, aged five, after they were reunited at Heathrow Airport yesterday. Mr Cole-

ridge said: "It was thoughts of my family which kept me going." He was held with Mr Omar Traboulsi, the Syrian-born head of Oxford's Beirut office, by armed Palestinians after taking photographs of a refugee camp. Mr Coleridge said: "I was aware that I was arguing for my life."

If they were in any way not convinced, it would not have turned out as well as it has. The ordeal had given him an insight into what hostages such as Mr Terry Waite were suffering.

(Photograph: Chris Harris)

## Baker opposes Tory move on caning

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

A move by Tory backbenchers to reintroduce corporal punishment in state schools is being vigorously opposed by Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

He is mobilizing the Government's parliamentary forces. It is understood that the payroll vote of ministers and parliamentary private secretaries, their unpaid Commons linkmen, will be called out to defeat attempts to restore the cane last this month in the report stage of the Education Reform Bill.

Some senior Tory backbenchers were also predicting a three-line whip to ensure a government victory.

The Government is facing some embarrassment on a second front with Mr Timothy Janman, Tory MP for Thurrock, leading a campaign to outlaw the so-called closed

shop enjoyed by the National Union of Students, an arrangement that ministers show no signs of wishing to disturb as they seek to push through their educational reforms.

The rebels, led by Mr James Pawsey and Mr Harry Greenway, members of the Conservative backbench education committee, are planning an appeal to the Prime Minister in an attempt to persuade her to overrule Mr Baker.

The rebels say they already have about 40 committed supporters, but they accept that they stand no prospect of success against the combined strength of the Government and the Labour Party, which is implacably opposed to caning.

Mr Pawsey, MP for Rugby and Kenilworth, said yesterday that the beneficial changes proposed by the

Government would amount to little unless they could ensure that the "essential framework of discipline" was present in schools.

However, Mr Robert Key, Conservative MP for Salisbury and a prime mover in the abolition of caning by just one vote nearly two years ago, said he was becoming more convinced of the irrelevance of corporal punishment.

Mr Greenway, MP for Ealing North and a London deputy headmaster for 23 years, has put down a clause calling for the restoration of caning for "offences of gross indiscipline".

Both his wording and that advanced by Mr Pawsey seek to circumvent a European Court of Human Rights ruling against corporal punishment in 1982 by making it clear that a decision to administer corporal punishment must be

taken in consultation with parents.

Disciplinary proceedings against four teachers at an East Sussex school who are offering pupils Scottish O grade as an alternative to the General Certificate of Secondary Education were dropped yesterday.

The teachers have been told that they must not tell parents of their misgivings about GCSE, according to a statement issued by their headmaster, Mr Keith Chaplin, at Lewes Priory School.

They can continue teaching the Scottish O grade, but only privately.

Parents were given permission by a High Court judge in London yesterday to challenge the planned closure of "the best school in Bedfordshire", Pilgrim Upper School, Bedford.

## MPs renew call for £1bn NHS boost

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

A Tory-controlled committee of MPs yesterday stepped up its campaign to persuade the Government to devote massive extra resources to the National Health Service.

Stung by last week's abrupt dismissal of its recommendations by both the Prime Minister and Mr John Moore, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Services, the Social Services committee took the rare step of issuing a special report to counter criticism of its work.

Mr Frank Field, the committee's Labour chairman, said: "We are dealing with a

very serious subject. We issued a serious report and we want a serious response."

The committee's original report was produced after a short but intensive inquiry which took evidence from the presidents of the three royal medical colleges, doctors, health authorities, independent experts and government officials.

It secured the wholehearted support of the committee's six Tory MPs, and its central recommendation was for an extra £1 billion for the health service over the next two years to make up for cumulative

underfunding since 1981, which the MPs estimated at £1.8 billion.

Both Mrs Thatcher and Mr Moore dismissed that figure as "arbitrary", but in its report yesterday the committee said the only arbitrary aspect of its recommendation was that it was less than the £1.8 billion shortfall identified.

The committee had opted to ask for "a relatively modest sum" to be spent specifically on maintaining property and equipment, developing care in the community and installing the information technology

that was essential for monitoring performance.

The committee also accused Mrs Thatcher of having "misinterpreted" another of its central recommendations. It said it had not called for an advance government commitment to funding in full whatever pay awards the review bodies might recommend; it had merely wanted funding for whatever pay settlement the Government accepted.

The committee urged the Government to reconsider its "over-hasty rejection of our recommendations"

## Rail strike illegal

A High Court judge has ordered six branch officials of Aslef, the train drivers' union, to obey their national officers and call off a proposed 24-hour strike at King's Cross, London, next Monday.

Mr Justice McKinnon granted orders to British Rail requiring the officials to withdraw their instructions to

strike forthwith. He also granted an order which prevents them from issuing further instructions to call strike action next week.

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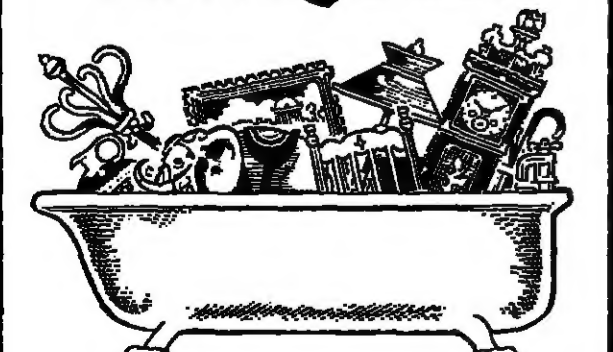
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## Lords cancel award to blind boy in test of medical liability

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A woman who has fought for nearly 10 years to win damages for her son who was virtually blinded at birth lost her £116,000 award yesterday when the House of Lords ruled that she must go back to the High Court to restart legal proceedings.

In an important test judgement which had been keenly awaited by the medical profession, five lords unanimously agreed that Essex Area Health Authority had been negligent when a doctor failed to see that a catheter had been wrongly inserted in the baby.

But, in overturning the Court of Appeal's finding in favour of the mother last year, the law lords said the lower courts had been wrong in holding the authority liable for damages. The original trial judge had misdirected himself on the law and had not given his view as to whether this negligence "caused or materially contributed" to the boy's blindness, an issue on which experts were "radically in dispute".

The ruling means that Mrs Heather Wilsher, aged 32, who started legal proceedings when her son—now aged nine—was only a few months old, would have to go back to the High Court to prove this causal link. If unsuccessful, she will not then be awarded any damages even though negligence is accepted.

Lord Bridge of Harwich, giving the lead judgement, said that to have to order a retrial was "a highly unsatisfactory result."

"One cannot help feeling the profoundest sympathy for Martin and his family that the outcome is once again in doubt and that this litigation may have to drag on."

"Many may feel that such a result serves only to highlight the shortcomings of a system in which the victim of some grievous misfortune will recover substantial compensation or none at all according to the unpredictable hazards of the forensic process."

But, like it or not, the law, which only Parliament could change, required proof of fault causing damage as the basis of a claim of this kind, he said.

Afterwards, Mrs Wilsher, of Chingford, Essex, who is on legal aid, said she felt "exhausted" that after more than nine years, the case had not yet been settled and could remain unsettled for another three years. "At every stage I have had to adjust my mind to the next appeal and at the moment I can't even think about another trial."

Mrs Wilsher, who has two other children, aged eight and four, said she would not give up. If she finally won damages, it would go into a trust for her son.

"He will have it when he is 18 to help him become independent from the family. He may not get a job because he can't see, can't ride a bike, and won't be able to drive."

The case has been a test judgement on "causation" in medical negligence cases. It is certain to be welcomed by the

medical defence bodies who had feared that if the Court of Appeal's decision stood, it would be far more difficult to defend medical negligence claims.

However, Mr John Finch, director of the Centre for Health Care Law at Leicester University, said that the case raised the whole question of how precisely an injured patient had to pinpoint blame to succeed in a claim.

The ruling showed such a patient was not allowed simply to fire "grapeshot", and to succeed in a claim on causation of damage if one target was hit.

But to "target" blame specifically could be very difficult. "Given the complexities of medical knowledge, does it mean they have to hit a bullseye to everyone's satisfaction?"

He said that the "narrow" approach which the law lords were obliged to adopt left up in the air a number of key issues raised by the case. These included what liability relatively junior doctors have, and the question of suing health authorities direct instead of via the doctor.

Mr Finch said: "I am convinced of the need for health authorities and hospitals to look to systematic preventative help from lawyers and others before things go wrong at all, rather than trying to assess their legal responsibilities from single judicial decisions."

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## The Cutty Sark chorus



Tim Yealand, who plays Billy Budd in the English National Opera production at the London Coliseum, leading a chorus from Christ's College, Hendon, north-west London, during a workshop on the deck of the Cutty Sark at Greenwich, south-east London, yesterday. The session included practical workshops in maritime skills (Photograph: Peter Trivelpiece).

## Inquiry told of suspicious man near Tube fire

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

The inquiry into the King's Cross London Underground fire disaster yesterday told of the "disturbed look" on the face of a mysterious, unidentified man in blue overalls.

Three witnesses described having seen him shortly before the fire, which killed 31 people, was discovered. He was near a trap-door leading into a machine room at the foot of the escalator on which the inferno began.

There has so far been no explanation of what this man was doing. His presence has led London Regional Transport to say that arson cannot be ruled out.

Mr Ilfay Mehmet, of Paddington, west London, said he saw a man in dark overalls "going underneath the ground". The man caught his eye, "I don't know why he did. The disturbed look on his face told me that everything was not as it seemed", Mr Mehmet said.

Mr Dennis Hills, a part-time cleaner at the station, described seeing a man beside the trap-door close to the wall.

"I heard a clang and the man walked away. For some reason I thought he was up to something. He may have looked up and seen me in my overalls with my London Transport symbol on it, and in my opinion he moved away very quickly."

Mr Paul Lane of Wood Green, north London, told how he walked past the foot of the Piccadilly Line escalators at about 7.20pm on the night of the fire. He noticed an open inspection cover at the bottom of the escalator and saw a man standing in the access aperture of the trap door, probably on a ladder, visible from about a foot above the waist.

"My impression was that he had come from the chamber and was about to go back down."

Mr Lane said the man had black hair, flecked with grey, and combed back. He had "quite a heavy jaw" as if he had not shaved for a couple of days. He was about five feet ten inches tall and white, and seemed to be wearing overalls of a "mild blue colour".

There has been some suggestion that the man in the blue overalls may have been a legitimate London Underground employee.

Mr Lane said he had been visited by two police officers with another person, understood to have been Mr Christopher Heyes, who was on duty as a London Underground inspector on the night of the fire and was asked if this was the person he had seen in the blue overalls. Mr Lane had replied: "Definitely not".

Mr Arthur Barrett, a train driver on the Victoria Line, told the hearing that his train drew up at the platform at King's Cross during the fire. Three times before opening the doors he announced that the doors were going to open but passengers must not get off because the station was being cleared.

Mr Barrett agreed that in order to make people on the platform hurry on board he said over the public address system that there were "No reservations on this train". People were looking for seats and taking far too long. The inquiry continues.

## Aids suspected in 600 'excess' deaths

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Hundreds more people in Britain may have been killed by the Aids virus than the official figures show, according to research published yesterday.

The detective work of a government health statistician has uncovered almost 600 "excess" deaths in which there was a possible link with infection of the individual by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Those are in addition to the 749 Aids deaths so far reported to the Department of Health and Social Security since 1982 when the first cases were identified in Britain.

A study by Dr Anna McCormick of the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, published at an international Aids conference in London, shows that since then there have been 887 more deaths than would be usually expected statistically among men aged between 19 and 54 years, the age group in which almost all Aids cases occur.

Only 290 of those fatalities were recorded as being due to Aids, but the others had

Three quarters of the people infected with HIV, the human immunodeficiency virus, will go on to develop Aids or a related condition, according to the latest medical study of the development of the illness (Pearce Wright writes).

Doctors who carried out the study report in today's issue of the *British Medical Journal* that conversion from infection to full-blown Aids should be regarded "as the norm rather than the exception".

They say that use of the

symptoms of a wide range of illnesses which can be caused by the HIV infection. "It is suggested that at least some of these deaths were caused by Aids, but either the correct cause was not diagnosed or the doctor did not state Aids as the cause of death", Dr McCormick said.

She emphasized that the findings were tentative and that some of the deaths might be unrelated to the virus. However, she pointed out that about 90 per cent of them were among men who had never married, compared with about 85 per cent of the total number of Aids cases which

involved homosexual or bisexual men. "I don't know of any other reasons why deaths in this group of men are going up."

One possibility suggested by the findings is that many more people die from HIV infection without developing full-blown Aids than has been considered previously. Another possibility is that in some cases doctors have deliberately camouflaged an Aids death to protect the feelings of relatives.

Dr McCormick's results are being studied by experts at the DHSS and are likely to lead to

improvements in the national Aids reporting system.

The conference was also told that an Aids vaccine might not be available for 10 or more years because of "almost unsurmountable" scientific problems.

Professor Arie Zuckerman of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, said: "I can find no cause for optimism. All of the candidate Aids vaccines tested so far have proved disappointing. The hopes of the scientific community and the public at large have been raised to an extent which is premature."

Condoms may be made available to homosexual men in some prisons to reduce the risks of Aids, Dr John Kilgour, director of prison medical services for England and Wales, said yesterday that the possibility was being considered by the Home Office. As many as 500 men with the Aids virus are thought to be serving sentences.

He said that homosexual acts in British jails are considered illegal and the provision of condoms could be seen as condoning an illegal act, but he hinted that some changes may be made to the rules.

## Joint action over tranquillizer cases

By Our Legal Affairs Correspondent

Solicitors from more than 100 firms meet next Wednesday to form a united front against drug companies over the alleged side effects of some tranquillizers.

The meeting, in London, has been called by the Law Society, the solicitors' professional body, which says that 100 firms have already been instructed by alleged victims of the benzodiazepine group of drugs.

Mr Graham Ross, a solicitor in Stockport, Greater Manchester, who is acting for 400 potential claimants, said that he estimated there were some 1,000 people who had come forward claiming addiction to the tranquillizers.

The drugs have been widely prescribed, but now drug dependency and other prob-

lems are said to have come to light. "The total number who may be addicted could be as much as two or three million", Mr Ross said.

It is possible that the concerted legal action—which could start by the end of this year—against the drug companies will be brought under the Consumer Protection Act, 1987.

This makes manufacturers of goods, including drugs, automatically liable for injury occurring as a result of defective products.

The campaign which led to the new law started after the Thalidomide tragedy in which deformed babies were born to women who had taken the drug.

## Red wine seen as migraine culprit

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Red wine, but not alcohol in general, can set off migraine, according to the results of an experiment at two London hospitals.

That conclusion was described yesterday by Professor Merton Sandler, of the department of chemical pathology at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, Hammersmith, as "absolutely clear cut". He said it was also the unmistakable evidence proving that migraine attacks can be provoked by food-stuffs.

About one in four migraine sufferers attribute the onset of their blinding headaches to something they have eaten. Alcoholic drinks, in particular red wine—but not white—head the list.

The study shows that red wine contains an unrec-

ognized migraine-provoking agent that is neither alcohol nor tyramine, which is a naturally occurring substance that has been under suspicion.

The effects of drinking were monitored on four different groups. The study was conducted by doctors from the Queen Charlotte's and the Princess Margaret Migraine Clinic at Charing Cross Hospital, and is described in today's issue of *The Lancet*.

Of the four groups, only those given red wine who were suspected of being sensitive had a migraine attack. None of the others in the trial showed any symptoms.

Professor Sandler said it was necessary to look beyond alcohol and tyramine for dietary chemicals that set off the condition.

## Ruling 'threatens ancient woodlands'

Ancient woodlands were said to be in danger yesterday after the Court of Appeal ruled that landowners prevented from cashing in on the land are entitled to high compensation.

The judges dismissed an appeal by Canterbury City Council against a compensation order made by the Lands Tribunal by Mr Peter Bell, a farmer, in a test case supported by conservation bodies and watched anxiously by many local authorities.

The court ruled that Mr Bell was entitled to £38,851 because he was prevented by a tree preservation order from converting 39 acres of Featherly and Quifers Woods, at Kingston, near Canterbury, to farmland.

The woods, which are within the Kent Downs area of outstanding natural beauty and have been on the site since at least 1600, form part of 88 acres bought by Mr Bell in 1981.

The judges were told of wide fears among conservationists that, if local authorities were faced with paying out high compensation to landowners, they

Scottish Friends of the Earth planted 35 trees in a paddock at the rear of the home of Mr Terry Wogan, the television personality, yesterday in protest against his 1,000-acre holding in a conifer forest in the Flow Country, Caithness. Friends of the Earth said Mr Wogan, who is on holiday, had received more than £250,000 in grants and tax relief.

would be unwilling to protect woodland with preservation orders.

Mr John Chater, chief planning officer in charge of conservation for the council, said later: "Because of the ambiguity of the legislation, local authorities have been uncertain about the position for 20 years, during which time thousands of acres of woodland have been lost. With this ruling their worst fears have been realized. Our ancient woodlands have been put in grave danger."

He said the council, which was refused permission to appeal to the House of Lords, would consider going directly to the Law Lords to seek leave.

Lords Justices Slade, Russell and Taylor rejected the council's argument that compensation should be limited to any loss incurred by the landowner's inability to exploit the area's full potential as forestry land.

Mr Bell argued that the compensation figure should also take into account the loss of the potential value of the land as agricultural land. Lord Justice Russell said that, if the council's argument was right and compensation was to be assessed solely on the value of the timber, Mr Bell's assessment after deductions would have been nil.

There was nothing in either the 1971 Town and Country Planning Act or the 1969 Country Planning (Tree Preservation Order) Regulations to justify limiting compensation in that way, he said.

Friends of the Earth launched a "Good Wood Guide" yesterday as part of a campaign to direct trade in tropical hardwoods away from the destruction of natural rainforests.

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## MPs want tough stand on zero VAT

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

The Government must tell the European Commission that it will not accept its "sawed" plans to end zero VAT rating on such items as food, children's shoes, newspapers and books, a senior all-party committee of MPs said yesterday.

The Treasury and Civil Service Committee challenged the arguments in favour of creating a unified system of indirect taxation throughout the European Community as part of the creation of a single internal market in 1992.

It dismissed the warning given to it by Lord Cockfield, vice-president of the commission, that failure to conform could lead to trade barriers between Britain and the rest of the community. It also rejected the EEC's proposals for standardized excise rates throughout the community on tobacco, alcohol and petrol.

The committee, referring to Lord Cockfield's assertion that the Govern-

ment had yet to reply formally to the commission's proposals, declared: "The Government should send such a reply without delay making plain that abolition of the zero rating principle is not something on which there can be unanimity and that the Government is not prepared to consider any draft which includes it."

There were "overwhelming arguments in favour of the retention of zero rating. Ministers should seek to persuade other member states of its positive merits."

The EEC has suggested a two-tier VAT system with a standard rate of between 14 and 20 per cent and a reduced rate of 4 to 9 per cent for items such as food, books, medicines and passenger transport.

The committee said these proposals were "unlikely to be wholly acceptable to anyone". They seemed to be based on "a legalistic search for approximation

rather than a search for the most sensible and desirable solution."

The commission had not made a convincing case that unified VAT was necessary for completion of the internal market. VAT was just one of a number of factors accounting for price differentials between member states.

"Approximating VAT will not remove price differentials or place all EEC companies on an equal footing."

The committee said standardized excise duties were unacceptable because they would impinge on the social, health, transport and environmental policies of individual member states.

The Government has repeatedly expressed its opposition to ending zero rating.

Treasury and Civil Service Committee: The European Commission's Proposals on the Approximation of Indirect Taxation (Stationery Office, £4.20).

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# Prime Minister and Lawson rule out intervention

The Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer made clear during Commons questions that the Government was not going to intervene in the markets to hold down the value of sterling.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher said: "There is no way you can buck the market."

She and Mr Nigel Lawson repeated that the Government's paramount policy was to keep inflation down.

Mr Lawson denied an Opposition claim that he had said three months ago that the pound should not rise above DM3. However, any further significant rise against the Deutsche Mark would be unlikely to be sustainable.

Mr Patrick Duffy (Sheffield, Attercliffe, Lab) said that, in view of the present position of balance of trade and external payments, and the extent to which they would be aggravated by this week's predictable surge in sterling, how did the Chancellor explain last month's "high interest rates? Or had he been overruled?"

Mr Lawson said that he was not sure what was meant by predictability of sterling. He had not noticed that Mr Duffy had predicted it (laughter).

"The Government remains committed to maintaining a policy of exchange rate stability. That was agreed by the Group of Seven finance ministers on December 23 last year.

"While stability does not mean immobility, any further significant rise in exchange rate, certainly against the Deutsche Mark would, in my opinion, be unlikely to be sustainable."

Mr Timothy Smith (Beaconsfield, C) said that what mattered was keeping the continued downward pressure on inflation.

Mr Lawson said that was absolutely correct.

## TREASURY

Mr Robert Sheldon (Ashton-under-Lyne, Lab) said that the president of the CBI had said that allowing exchange rates to develop in this way would produce a serious threat to industry. The Chancellor's policy had been stability, but that no longer seemed to be the case.

Mr Lawson said that he was aware of what the president of the CBI had said, but he had also said that it was very much the responsibility of business and industry to contain their costs.

Mr Gordon Brown, an Opposition spokesman on Treasury affairs, asked if the Chancellor recalled a statement he had made in the House of Commons on November 10, that the pound should not rise above DM3?

"Has he changed his mind or has the Prime Minister changed it for him?"

Mr Lawson: I never quoted any particular figure and if the Financial Times has quoted one by me they are wholly wrong.

Mr Ian Gow (Eastbourne, C) said that if high interest rates were said to discourage investment, how had there been a prolonged period of sustained investment in the United Kingdom despite the moderately high interest rates?

Would the Chancellor confirm that he would persevere with his monetary policy until he had achieved the policy set out in the party's manifesto of stability of prices?

Mr Lawson said that he could certainly give that assurance. It was right to point out that the policies the Government had been pursuing for nearly nine years and which had brought unprecedented success, had been criticized every inch of the way by the Opposition.

Later, Mr Timothy Boswell (Dover, C) said that the

1980s had seen the fastest sustained economic growth since the Second World War, considerably faster than that of Britain's European competitors.

Mr Nicholas Budge (Wolverhampton, South, West, C) said that the present growth rate was not sustainable. "Since it is now plain that he does not have the political support of the Prime Minister for maintaining the pound in the European exchange rate mechanism, will he reintroduce monetary controls?"

Mr Lawson: That sounds like some kind of socialistic interventionism, which I would certainly not endorse.

Mr Christopher Smith, an Opposition spokesman on economic affairs, said that the pound appeared to be going into free fall against the Deutsche Mark. Mr Lawson had said previously that his target was to keep the sterling rate below DM3.

Mr Lawson said that he stood by what he said at the September meeting of the International Monetary Fund. "There is nothing about DM3 there. I think the Financial Times must have been mistaken on that particular point."

Mr Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield, C) while congratulating the Government on what they have achieved on the economy and while industry can certainly cope with relatively high interest rates, is he not now a little concerned about the exchange rate position, because this may well undermine the competitive position of British industry in the world.

Mr Lawson said that he understood the point being made. "Clearly, we do not want an excessively high exchange rate but nor, by the same token, are we prepared to see a tempted salvation by devaluation, espoused by the Opposition, but which really is the route to higher inflation."

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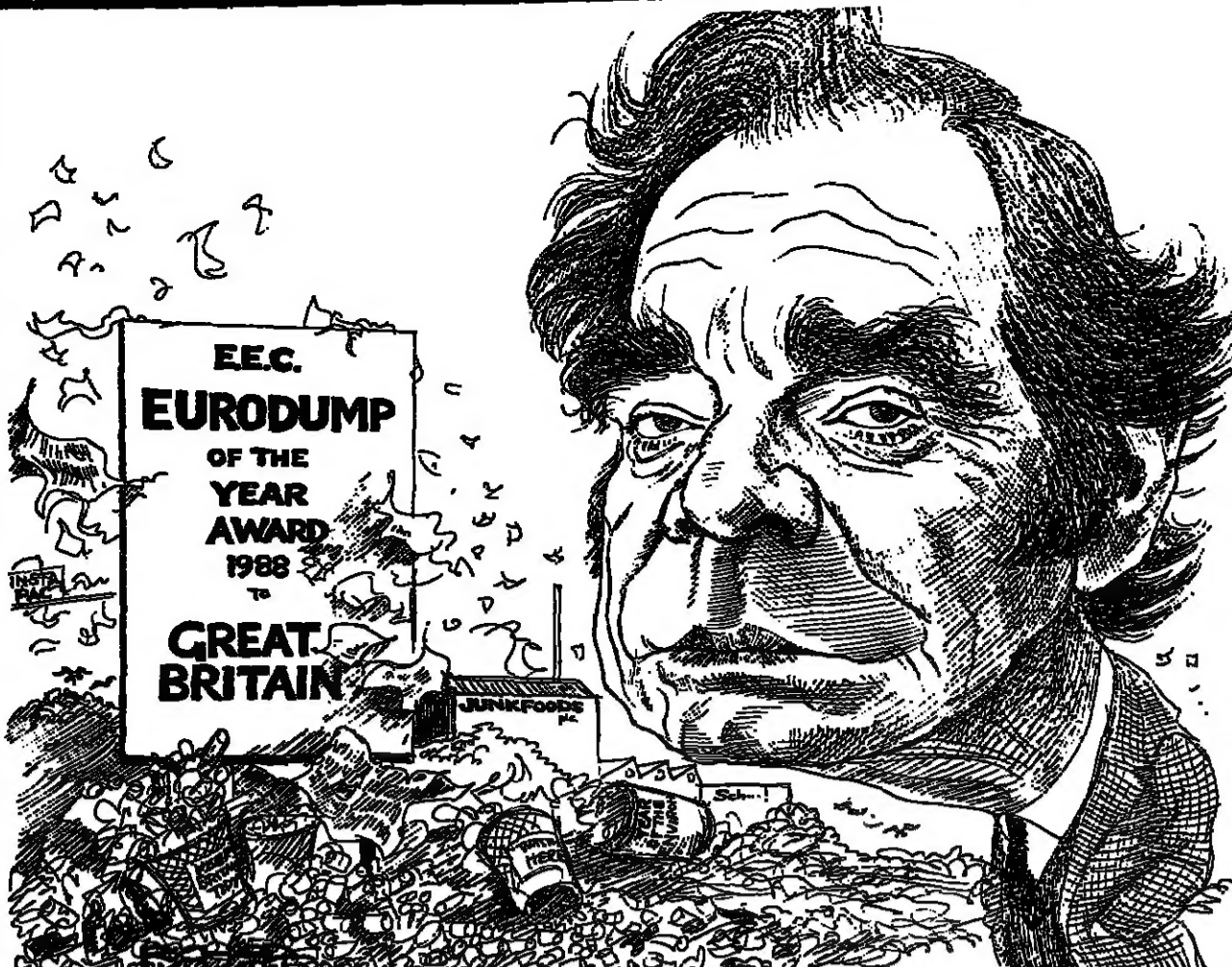
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## A day of sweeping harmony

Giving people the responsibility to clear the litter from outside their shops, offices, and homes was a possible but major change in the effort to clean up Britain, Mrs Thatcher said during question time.

She agreed wholeheartedly with Mr Edward Gurney (Walsend, Lab) (above), who told her that he and she had one thing in common: they both abhorred filth and the disgrace of litter cities with the national problem of litter.

"As a provincial MP I am distressed

beyond belief at the failure of the citizens to maintain up this city (cheers). With the possible exception of Westminster, the boroughs in this great metropolitan area are somehow losing the battle to keep our streets clean. It must be a source of distress to foreigners when they leave the clean surroundings of Heathrow and find the filth and grime in the city."

He suggested that she should send someone from Downing Street to European capitals to see how they tackled the question.

Mrs Thatcher: I agree wholeheartedly. Westminster City Council makes tremendous efforts to try to keep the streets clean. The sidewalks and central reservations outside the city were a contrast.

In Europe it was tackled by giving people responsibility for clearing up outside their shops, offices and houses. That was a possible but major change. If people did not throw down litter and had greater pride in their cities and roads there would not be a problem.

## Forestry tax plans defended

Forestry was important for employment, Mr Norman Lamont, Financial Secretary, Treasury, said, when Mr Ronald Davies (Caerphilly, Lab) said that tax incentives for forestry development were not especially for timber production but to provide "tax dodges" for the very rich.

Mr Lamont had told him that income tax forgone as a result of special taxation provisions for forestry development was at present estimated at £10 million.

Mr Davies: Most current commercial afforestation is carried out despite the objections of those who care for our landscape and wild life.

"While he cannot anticipate the Budget, will he at least confirm that there can be no justification for the present tax regime?"

Mr Lamont: Some would point out that forestry is important for employment in rural areas, and for the pulp and paper industries.

## Regional grants redefined, not cut, says minister

Government spending on regional assistance was being redefined and redirected but not cut, Mr Ian Lang, Minister of State for Scotland, said when moving the third reading of the Regional Development Grants (Termination) Bill in the Commons.

He said that the Bill was part of a group of measures by which the Government aimed to strengthen regional policy and to make it more cost-effective. There was no question of a cut in spending. In fact, in very many areas there were big increases.

He did not believe that inward investment would be undermined as a result of the changes. Regional assistance had a part to play in attracting inward investment, but it would be available in selective form and could thus be tailored to the needs of specific projects.

The case for handing out grants in a general and automatic fashion could no longer be made. Such a system was not effective. Assistance was best given not in an undirected manner or in a way that created

dependence. It should be related to need and aimed at stimulating self-generating growth as well as reducing inequalities in employment opportunities.

The changes in this Bill would apply resources more cost-effectively, more flexibly and more selectively, the better to achieve the Government's objectives.

Mr Austin Mitchell, an Opposition spokesman on trade and industry, said that the Bill bore all the hallmarks of the Government entering its new radical leopards phase.

The Bill was vicious because it would hit hardest those areas most in need in favour of the richer areas. It was mean because it was a further petty economy that would lead to a reduction in spending on the regions from a Government that was now spending only £4 on regional assistance for every £1 spent by Labour.

It was a shabby Bill because it was justified by fiddled figures

and it was cynical because it was typical of the new approach of the Department of Trade and Industry in advertising worse as better.

If industry was to be attracted the Government needed a paucity of weapons. Both regional development grant and regional selective assistance had a part to play. "You have got to have a two-legged approach."

The automatic nature of RDC was its strength, but also the reason why the Treasury objected to it. The Treasury disliked anything that was demand-led. It wanted the power to control these grants.

Seeing the strength that gave ministers against the Treasury, they should have fought to save these grants. The fact that they had given away showed what little guts they had.

Mr Alan Beith (Berwick-upon-Tweed, SLD) said that regional development grants had been a successful part of regional policy and had helped to create more than 600,000 jobs.

Mr Mark Fisher (Stoke-on-Trent Central, Lab) said that the clause would set back tolerance, freedom of expression and the arts and media.

Mr Michael Brown (Brigg and Cleethorpes, C) said that the clause was unenforceable, its enactment would send a signal that the House was ready to legislate down the road of persecution and prejudice. He would vote for the Opposition amendments.

Mr Ken Livingstone (Brent East, Lab) said that the clause was not a serious attempt to protect children, but was pandering to bigotry in the hope of producing votes.

Mr Michael Howard, Under Secretary of State for Environment, said that allegations that the provision would lead to

## 'Vital' to control inflation

The paramount objective of the Government was keeping down inflation, Mrs Margaret Thatcher said during Prime Minister's questions.

Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, asked whether she agreed with the chairman of the CBI, Sir David Nixon, who had said on Wednesday that high interest rates and high exchange rates at the same time were bad for industry.

Mrs Thatcher said that she and the Chancellor (Mr Nigel Lawson) had already indicated the Government's policy. "It is vital to try to keep inflation down."

There had been fixed exchange rates under the former Bretton Woods system, but that had been brought to an end by inflation. "The last thing the CBI or manufacturers want is a

very high rate of inflation because they could not compete at selling goods abroad."

Mr Kinnock said that the CBI and the British Association of Chambers of Commerce took a different view on inflation and said that, in the interests of guarding against rises in prices and cost inflation, it was necessary to get the pound back down to DM3 and also to cut interest rates.

"When faced with that practical advice, why does she prefer primitive monetarism?"

Mrs Thatcher said that she had never known any industrialist to want inflation higher than that of his industrial rivals against whom he had to compete in international markets.

The CBI and industry were doing very well under the excellent stewardship of the

Chancellor. "Industry must rely on its own efficiency, salesmanship and design in getting exports."

Mr Kinnock asked if Mrs Thatcher recalled Mr Lawson saying in December that keeping the pound in line with the Deutsche Mark was likely to be, in the medium term, a pretty good inflationary discipline. "Does she agree?"

Mrs Thatcher: The Chancellor and I are agreed that the paramount objective is keeping inflation down.

The Chancellor had never said that there would be total immobility in the exchange rate. There had had to be adjustments under the Bretton Woods system and in the European Monetary System there had to be revaluation and devaluation. "There is no way in which you can buck the market."

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## £14m from a tax on death

The Treasury is receiving between £14 million and £18 million a year through the imposition of value-added tax on funerals, Mr Max Madden (Bradford West, Lab) said during questions. "It is, in effect, a tax on death."

Ten thousand people died each week and the Chancellor should introduce VAT zero-rating on funeral charges. He should also look at giving tax relief on simple insurance schemes, which would give re-assurance to many elderly people.

Mr Peter Lilley, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, said that the Government did not have the power under its EEC obligations to change the position on VAT in this instance, but he would draw the attention of the Chancellor to the matter.

## MPs reject Labour's gay amendment to councils Bill

The following report of a Commons debate on the Local Government Bill appeared in later editions yesterday.

The Commons voted by 254 votes to 201 - Government majority, 53, to reject a Labour amendment to the Bill and preserve the ban on intentional promotion of homosexuality by local authorities.

When Lords amendments to the Bill were considered, Dr John Cunningham, chief Opposition spokesman on the environment, moved an amendment to exempt action that would discourage discrimination or would protect civil rights. This was rejected in the division.

The House approved the wording of the ban on intentional promotion as it emerged from the House of Lords, with the word "intentionally" inserted, without a further division.

Dr Cunningham welcomed the Lords amendments but said that they were not good enough to satisfy the Opposition's fundamental objections to the clause.

The provision set a dangerous precedent. It represented a new and dangerous direction for the law.

These proposals will encourage discrimination at a time when the civil liberties of homosexuals are already under increased threat and hostility because of the appalling consequences of Aids.

The clause would make it more acceptable to discriminate against gay and lesbian people.

The Government had proposed a similar clause in 1986 arguing that it would be open to harmful misinterpretation. Why had it changed its mind now?

"I believe it has done so for the basest and most contemptible of political motives. It wants to seek political gain from aiding and abetting bigotry and discrimination against gay and lesbian people."

Mr Robin Squire (Hornchurch, C) said that the Government had not established the need for this clause. There was a possibility that it would be taken by many people as some sort of a signal that matters were becoming more intolerant.

Mr Christopher Smith (Islington South and Finsbury, Lab) said that the Government's motives were profoundly anti-democratic, anti-libertarian and destructive of British traditions of tolerance. The clause said that there was one form of relationship, one form of sexuality that was acceptable, and only one.

That form would be endorsed, approved, applauded and given special legal status. Everything else would become second class.

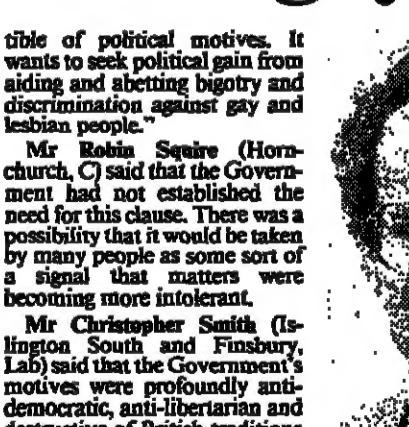
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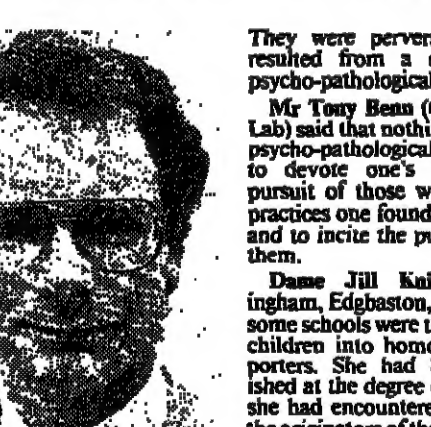
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They were perversions. They resulted from a deep seated psycho-pathological perversion.

Mr Tony Benn (Chesterfield, Lab) said that nothing was more psycho-pathologically sick than to devote one's life to the pursuit of those who followed practices one found undesirable and to incite the public to hate them.

Dame Jill Knight (Birmingham, Edgobaston, C) said that some schools were trying to turn children into homosexual supporters. She had been astonished at the degree of bitterness she had encountered as one of the originators of the clause. Her car had been vandalized and her secretary had been subjected to a barrage of pornographic and abusive telephone calls to her home, but she would not be deterred from protecting children and the family unit.

Mr Simon Hughes (Southwark and Bermondsey, SLD) said that this sort of legislation fanned into greater bigotry those who already had latent prejudice.



## Aids victims and disabled suspects held in police cells on remand

# Hundreds on move as crisis worsens

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

More than 1,000 London prisoners on remand are being held in police cells the length and breadth of England, including one man accused of theft who has terminal Aids.

Chief Inspector Anthony McDermott, who is supervising movements for the Metropolitan Police, said: "We are trying to get a court to consider the question of bail

so that he can go to a hospice as a terminal case".

The man is one of three HIV positive cases.

The movement of prisoners out of London begins at 4pm each day the courts are sitting and the last of 50 vehicles leaves at about 8pm.

About 20 prisoners to be held in the North could be put in a coach with a secure escort

of officers. A run to Doncaster, Leeds and York, dropping off half a dozen or so prisoners at each location, could end as late as 3am.

The coach then picks up its first prisoners at 4am for the trip back to London.

The remand prisoners are too far away to be seen by relatives and solicitors and most police stations do not have the facilities for visits.

The police are trying to bring back more and more prisoners in time for a good night's sleep before they appear in court. Their fate could depend partly on the impression they make.

In exceptional cases, a remand prisoner may go to 15 locations, because of pressure on space caused by industrial action at two London jails by members of the Prison Officers' Association.

Mr McDermott said that 1,256 London prisoners were yesterday being held out of prison. Numbers varied up to 1,300, with about 10 or 15 per cent on the move each day.

In the Metropolitan Police area prisoners are in cells at four courts, 38 police stations and the Lambeth Holding Centre, where Mr McDermott is in charge.



The Metropolitan Police operations centre for the deployment of remand prisoners (Photograph: Mark Pepper).

A total of 931 prisoners were being held by provincial forces for the Metropolitan Police at 83 locations.

There are a total of 62 alleged murderers being held, 32 of them in the provinces. Another 90 prisoners need either psychiatric or medical reports.

Within the total of 1,256, there are 206 convicted prisoners, and the number is increasing. Mr McDermott said: "People with shorter sentences may never see the inside of a prison."

There are also 338 from the provinces in police custody instead of jail.

More than 20 prisoners are listed by police as not fit to be held in police cells. They include one who attempted suicide, a hunger striker and psychiatric cases.

"There are people who require secure medical treatment", Mr McDermott said.

"Last week I had a man with both legs in plaster who couldn't move and he was in constant pain and my officers had to act like nurses."

In the same cell was a man with one leg, in a wheelchair alleged to have committed minor criminal damage. Every day he was transported to

hospital for an artificial limb to be fitted.

Prisoners violent towards officers are also held in cells.

Each day Mr McDermott and his officers calculate how many places are needed for prisoners and telephone the Mutual Aid Co-ordinating Centre at Scotland Yard, set up by the Association of Chief Police Officers. That negotiates with provincial forces for cell spaces.

Most stations have no showers and no facilities for exercise or visits.

Many prisoners are locked up without association and without exercise for five to six

days, perhaps even longer, before coming again to court in London.

The Home Office said: "The Metropolitan Police and forces around the country are doing a magnificent job in putting up remand prisoners in very difficult circumstances but, unfortunately, there are bound to be problems."

Mr John Hosking, chairman of the Magistrates' Association, said: "We have been receiving complaints from magistrates about the failure of the prosecution to produce suspected offenders. As the industrial dispute continues, the situation can only deteriorate."

## Charge is dropped as man waits at home

By David Sapped

A man accused of attempted theft said that he was "wasting time just mooching about" at his north London home.

Meanwhile, the combined forces of the Home Office, the Crown Prosecution Service and the Metropolitan Police had confessed in court that they did not know where to find him.

Mr John Nichols, Marlborough Street magistrate, threw out a case of attempted theft against Mr Seamus O'Neill, saying he was "appalled" that the prosecution had failed on three occasions to produce the accused.

The prosecution believed Mr O'Neill was still on remand in police custody, but he had been bailed more than three weeks ago and had received no notice to attend any court.

Mr Nichols also dismissed charges of dishonestly receiving stolen goods against Mr Clive Taylor, of Harlesden, north-west London, and Miss Joanne Hall, of Camberwell, south London.

On three previous occasions, Mr Taylor was not produced at court. Yesterday, officers from Wormwood Scrubs brought him to the hearing but Miss Hall could not be taken from Holloway prison because of staff shortages.

## Navy relics bring in excellent prices

The battered, once waterlogged contents of HMS Invincible fetched £60,329 at Christie's South Kensington yesterday, with all but 1 per cent sold.

Being the first full-scale sale of archaeological remains in this country, the auction house had refrained from suggesting any estimates and so, whatever it achieved would have seemed successful.

It was the sand glasses, primitive but effective timekeepers for seafarers, that fetched the highest prices.

A 28-second sand glass, closely resembling a present-day egg timer, its glass container set within an oak case, sold for £3,850, and a 14-second version fetched £3,080. Both were bought on behalf of a Swiss collector.

A square wooden sailor's dinner plate, the like of which inspired the phrase "a square meal", was bought for £1,045, by someone who insisted "it is not for me". Two sorry-looking leather fire buckets, which once resided on deck beside the guns, sold for £715.

A Madeira wine bottle - alas, empty - fetched £440, in a section coyly called "the Shoe Collection" a single leather shoe, unworthy even for the most badly dressed of tramps, its outer sole and various other parts missing, sold for £605. Finally, a bean's daughter, or punishment cane, sold for £110 to an anonymous buyer.

A number of museums were represented, such as the Royal Armouries, but it was not thought they had bought. The sale, of 300 relics excavated recently from the wreck of the eighteenth century British warship, Invincible, was condemned by the Council for British Archaeology, which blamed lack of legislation to protect the nation's heritage, and the lack of resources for archaeology.

There was a world record

### SALEROOM

by Sarah Jane Checkland  
Art Market Correspondent

for Richard Parkes Bonington at Sotheby's English watercolour sale when his painting of the Pont des Arts and the Ile de la Cité, an important late work which helped establish the popularity of this particular view with later English artists, sold for £94,600 (estimate £40,000 to £60,000), to Agnew's, the dealers.

J M W Turner featured high among the top lots. His painting of an angler casting just above the narrow passage of water called "The Strid", at Bohon Abbey, Yorkshire, sold to a private buyer for £85,800 (estimate up to £60,000).

His view of the Rigi, Lake Lucerne, a recently rediscovered work, fetched £42,000, just above estimate.

Meanwhile, at Bonhams Old Master sale, top price was for a stormy seascape by Willem Van de Velde the Younger, depicting an English Indianman in a gale, driving ashore on a rocky coast. Estimated at £8,000, it sold for £12,650, a commissioned bid.

Middle-range continental furniture sold well at Christie's King Street, achieving a total of £557,089, with 91 per cent sold.

During the first part of Sotheby's two-day Japanese works of art sale, two dealers battled it out for a tiny eighteenth century ivory carving by Masanao of Kyoto of a cow comforting the calf which lies beneath her.

Together they took the price nearly £30,000 over its estimate, and it sold for £35,200 to Mr B Davies, a London dealer. The top price was £55,000 (estimate £25,000 to £35,000) for a pair of seventeenth century Kakiemon jars.

## Apple prices rise but quality stays

This year's Cox apples are superb although more expensive, at 55p to 65p a lb, than a couple of months ago. Pears are plentiful with a choice of King William's, 35p-55p a lb, comice 35p-55p and conference 22p-35p.

Home-grown early rhubarb is 35p-55p a lb. Grapes are 70p-£1.50 a lb depending on variety. Pineapples range from small at 55p each to extra large at £2.50 each. Sharon fruit are 25p-40p each. Oranges are 8p-30p each, oratanges 18p-25p, ugli fruit 50p-70p, grapefruit 12p-40p and lemons 10p-22p.

Cabbages are 25p-30p a lb and are plentiful. The last of the English brussels sprouts, at 20p-30p a lb, are still good quality. Cauliflowers are 45p-70p each. Courgettes, at 35p-75p a lb, are reasonably priced for the time of year.

Root vegetables in season are carrots 18p-30p a lb, parsnips 15p-35p a lb, swedes 16p-18p, turnips 20p-30p and potatoes 11p-30p a lb.

Lettuces are 28p-85p each, chinese leaves 50p-90p a head, celery 40p-60p, and English and Dutch hothouse tomatoes 90p-£1.10 a lb.

The average price of fish fillets including herrings is 85p, mackerel 71p and dab 73p which are cheaper than last week. Large cod at £2.02 a lb, haddock £2.15, whiting

£1.56 and plaice £2.30 are all more expensive.

Farmed salmon cutlets are £3 a lb for small fish and £4.40 for larger fish. Rainbow is £1.80 a lb. Smoked mackerel is about £1.20 a lb, cod £2.30 and trout £1.20 a lb.

Rib of beef is about £1.59 a lb and topside or silverside an average £2.28 a lb.

Whole leg of lamb costs an average £1.71 a lb, whole shoulder 97p and boneless shoulder £1.64.

Offers available this week are Sainsbury's lean cubed braising steak £2.48 a lb, fresh beef mince 96p a lb, Marks & Spencer 595 grams of roast chicken drumstick £2.39 and 595g of roast chicken thighs £2.25.

Tesco topside/silverside of beef £1.89 a lb. Pork escalopes £2.09 a lb, British lamb shoulder 94p a lb. Safeway beef braising steak £1.74 a lb and boneless chuck joint £1.64 a lb.

Dewhurst port spare rib chops from £1.18 a lb, hand of pork from 59p a lb, New Zealand leg of lamb from £1.39 a lb. Presto beef braising £1.74 a lb, beef roast joint £1.64 and 3lb pack of chicken quarters £1.99 each.

Bejam New Zealand chump chops £1.29 a lb and New Zealand lamb shoulder quarter knuckle 59p a lb.

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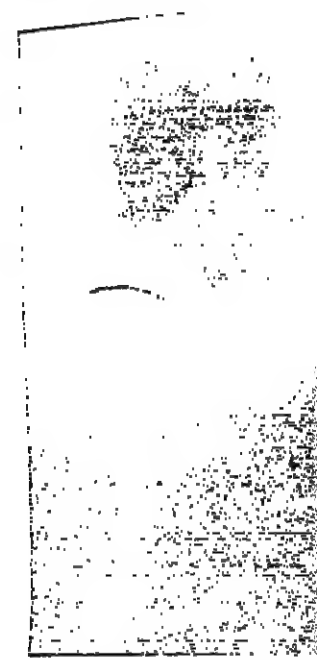


# IT'S TIME FOR ALL HONEST CITIZENS TO TURN TO CRIME.

You can see  
few facts.

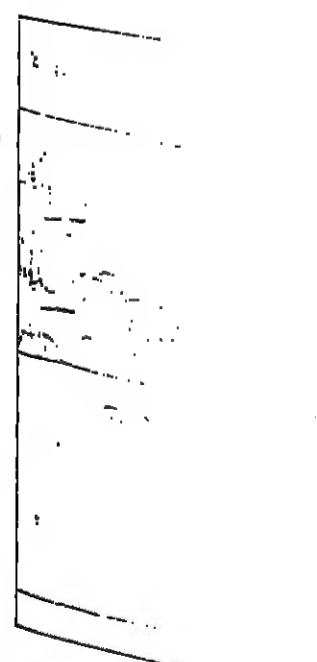
Each year  
£300 million, and  
by another £500 million.

Yet the police  
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They are not  
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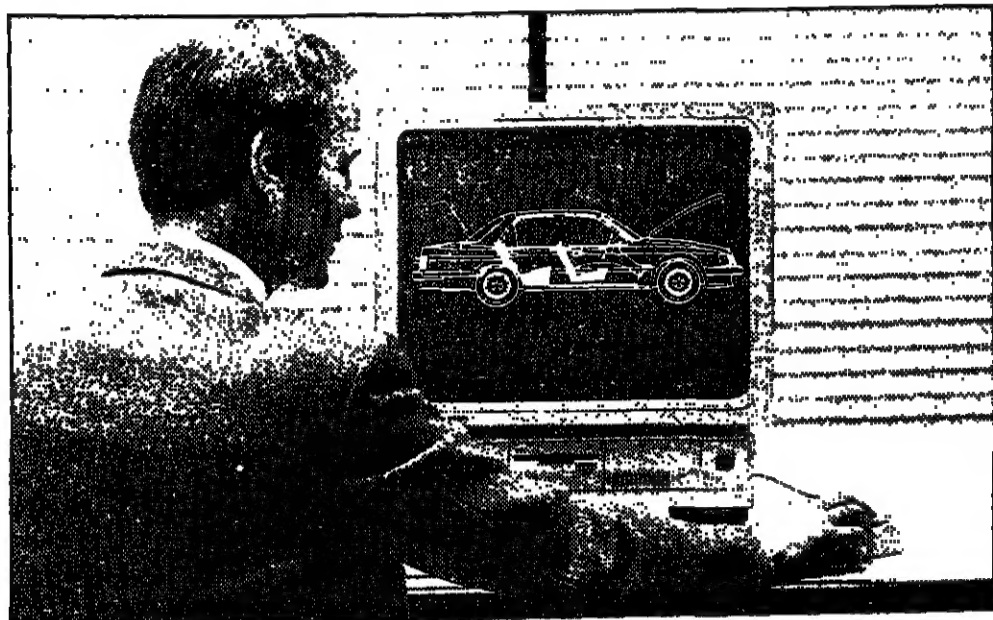




You can see why by considering a few facts.

Each year car theft costs us about £300 million, and burglary sets us back by another £150 million.

Yet the police reckon that one car in five is left unlocked, or with windows open, or with expensive goods temptingly on display. It is estimated that

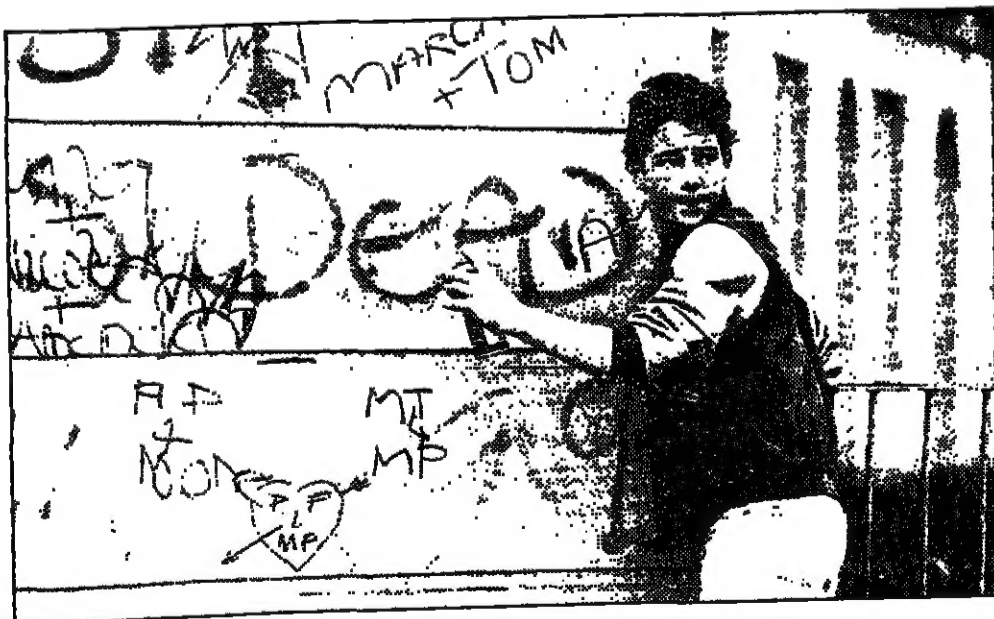


over 60% of homes still do not have any window locks (although that's better than a few years ago when it was nearer 90%).

These facts illustrate a basic truth.

#### HOME TRUTHS ABOUT CRIME.

The truth is that most criminals are on the lookout for a soft touch.



They are not hardened 'professionals' who set out with particular targets in mind, but young, inexperienced or unsophisticated.

What they're looking for is a house or car that will let them get in, get what they want and get away quickly.

In short, an easy opportunity.

Many of these opportunities can just as easily be removed.

By fitting and using locks. Or by taking other very simple precautions.

#### GETTING TOGETHER.

And if we can foil small-time criminals with modest individual effort and cost, how much more could be achieved by

working together in Neighbourhood Watches (there are forty-two thousand already)? Or in other local activities involving police, councils, businesses, voluntary groups and schools?

More radically still, what might we see if more systematic

effort was made to design anti-crime features into cars, houses and estates?

This is not a pipe dream: it's already happening.

#### DESIGNING AGAINST CRIME.

Take housing. There is a growing awareness of how the design, layout and construction of houses and estates

can affect the incidence of crime.

Many police forces are now appointing specialist architectural liaison officers in their crime prevention departments.

A new British Standard has been published. Some builders are now building security features into new housing projects.

Or cars. The Institute for Consumer Ergonomics at Loughborough University carried out a research project into automobile security which was presented to the motor industry

at a special Home Office conference.

Some manufacturers are now fitting better security on the production line. Some magazine road tests regularly report on the subject.

#### PREVENTING VIOLENT CRIME.

About 95% of crimes are against property rather than people. But, not surprisingly, it

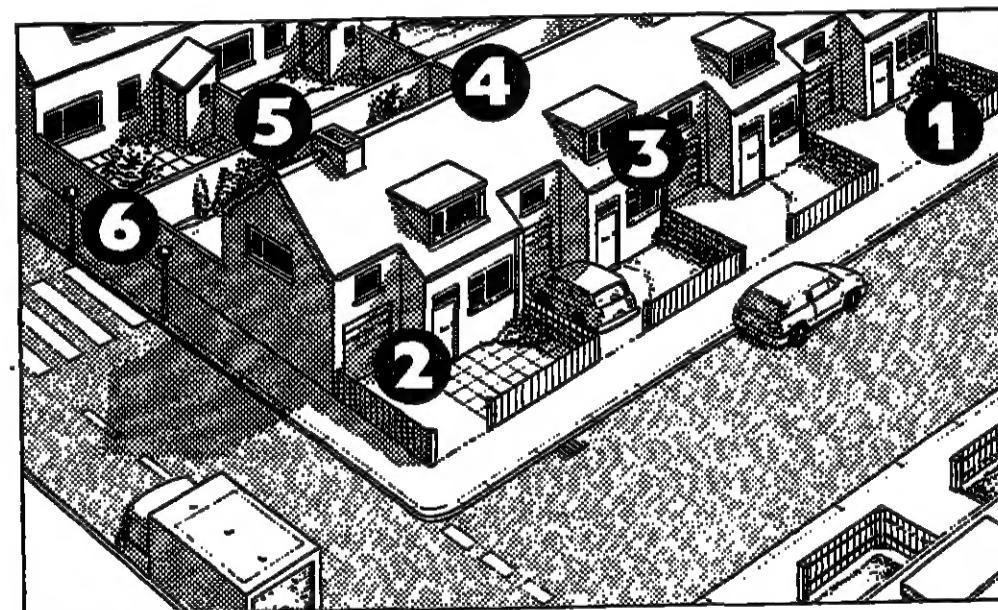
is the remaining 5%—assault, mugging and rape, for example—that causes the most comment and concern.

But even thugs look for easy opportunities. The dark alley, the pensioner who doesn't check callers' credentials, the child who accepts a lift from a stranger. These can be reduced by



personal and community action.

For example, because all of us feel vulnerable sometimes, police and other experts have devised simple, sensible precautions which individuals can adopt to help minimise the risk of being attacked.



1. Individual front gardens encourage responsibility
2. Integral garages cut down thefts
3. Windows facing street make observation easy
4. Mixed housing encourages social integration
5. Proper fences create sense of privacy
6. Back walls at least 6' high cut down easy access

#### THE CRIME BOOK.

Whether simple or sophisticated measures are called for, the scope for preventing crime is still enormous.

So take the opportunity to find out more. Telephone 01-200 1000 or send the coupon for your free copy of 'Practical Ways to Crack Crime'.

It will help you help the police to protect your family, your home, your community.

For your free copy of 'Practical Ways to Crack Crime' telephone 01-200 1000 or send this coupon to: Home Office Crime Prevention, PO Box 1000, Liverpool L69 1SR.

**PRACTICAL  
WAYS  
TO CRACK  
CRIME**

Name: Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms. \_\_\_\_\_  
Position/Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_  
Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_  
**CRIME**  
TOGETHER WE'LL CRACK IT



Waldheim and the fate of captured Allied soldiers

Mystery of censored report

From Robert Fisk  
Vienna

A wartime German document signed by Dr Kurt Waldheim and recounting the capture of 20 Allied soldiers — at least one of whom was later murdered by the SS — was systematically censored after the war to erase the identity of any survivors.

In all, 31 deletions were made in the Waldheim document, almost certainly by American officials in Washington before the papers were sent from the United States to the West German military archives in the early 1960s.

The only allied name still legible on the document is that of Captain David Warren, an SOE agent who the Foreign Office believes was executed on or just after May 14, 1944, the same day on which Dr Waldheim's report reached his superiors.

The exact identity of the officials who erased whole lines from the document — which is signed with Dr Waldheim's usual "W" initial as intelligence officer for the German Army Group E at Salonika — remains unknown, but the erasures could have been made in the national archives in Washington. The papers were captured by the Americans in 1945 together with thousands of other German wartime documents, and kept in Washington until their return to Germany for storage in the West German military archives in Freiburg.

They provide the first apparent evidence that Americans covered up details of wartime events that involved the future Austrian President. At about the time the papers were

returned to Germany with their black ink deletions, Dr Waldheim was head of the Austrian Foreign Office's western department political section. He was to be made Austrian ambassador to the United Nations in 1964.

The 1944 report originally named an American Air Force officer who, with 15 Russians and Poles under the command of Captain David Allan La Touche Warren, an Australian-born SOE officer, were captured while trying to escape by sea from Greece to Italy. But only the American's place

regional command for the Special Operations Executive — and then returned to Greece for "special tasks".

Whoever censored the report presumably knew that the one Allied soldier whose name was not deleted — Captain Warren — could never recount the events that took place because he had been taken from his Salonika cell by the SS at 11 at night and executed. After their perusal by officials in America at some stage after the war, "confidential" was stamped in English at the top of each of the

Major Hammer who was responsible for handing six captured British commandos to the SS for execution the same year. Dr Waldheim's wartime soldier's pay-book shows that he was on leave from Salonika when Captain Warren and his colleagues were captured by a German patrol boat on March 25, 1944, but had returned to his post in the intelligence section in time to write the report.

The initial intelligence documents appended to Dr Waldheim's report show that the Germans misunderstood what Captain Warren and the other men were doing. The first report to Waldheim's office from an Oberleutnant Zeiger in the German Korps Gruppe Joannina, described the capture of a "sabotage group" composed of "British, American, Russian and Polish persons" armed with two machineguns and several machine pistols.

In reality, however, Captain Warren, who was attached to the SOE's Force 133 operating behind enemy lines outside Salonika, was shepherding a group of escaped prisoners of war, including the American, across the Adriatic from occupied Greece to Italy when his boat apparently ran out of fuel.

Both Captain Warren's former commanding officer, Mr Christopher (Monty) Woodhouse, and Mr Charles Warren, Captain Warren's 61-year-old brother in Sydney, yesterday expressed their puzzlement as to why the document had been censored.

Mr Woodhouse, who was a colonel commanding Force 133, said the erasures were a complete puzzle.

Captain David Allan La Touche Warren. Born Brisbane, Australia, 1914, one of seven children. Attended Geelong Grammar School in Melbourne, then worked for P & O Shipping Company as purser before travelling to Britain to enlist in British Army at outbreak of the Second World War. Attended British officers' cadet training unit, October 13, 1939, to April 19, 1940, then joined Royal Northumberland Fusiliers. Arrived in

Middle East January 30, 1943, then recruited by Special Operations Executive (SOE) in Cairo. Infiltrated into Greece, August 1943, as British liaison officer with the Greek partisans. Captured by Germans off Greek coast while helping escaped Russian, American, and Polish POWs to travel to Italy, March 25, 1944. Executed by the Sicherheitsdienst (Hitler's secret police) in Salonika on the night of May 14 or 15, 1944. No known grave.

three pages of Dr Waldheim's report. This word was subsequently crossed out in crayon, presumably when the anonymous officials decided to delete the 31 passages from the report, sometimes whole lines, often individual words, totally obscuring the identity of any survivors.

Dr Waldheim's signature indicates that he actually wrote the original document, although it was signed by Major Hammer for the Army Group E Chief of Staff. Dr Waldheim's former superior officer claims now that it was

Officer's fight to escape the inevitable

From Our Own Correspondent, Vienna

David Allan Warren comes across the years as a cheerful, almost nonchalant young man, who improvised when things got rough, tried to escape his fate when it had become inevitable, and left behind him an unresigned story with the name of President Waldheim of Austria name at the end of it.

Captain Warren's brother Charles, now 81 and living in Sydney, remembers him as a happy-go-lucky schoolboy in Melbourne, leaving his exams at Geelong Grammar School until his sister-in-law told him he could never become a Merchant Navy officer unless he worked harder.

As an agent of the Special Operations Executive (SOE) in German-occupied Greece, his commanding officer, Colonel Christopher (Monty) Woodhouse, recalls him as a pleasant, shy young man with curly brown hair who was struck down by the simple fate of running out of petrol with his tiny boatload of escapees en route to Italy.

And we see him briefly, too, through German eyes, as Dr Kurt Waldheim himself records Warren's last, vain mission, trying to find transport to the Greek coast for his 15 Russian, three Polish and lone US prisoners of war. "They left for Karpenisi in February, 1944, where the British officer (Warren) rented a Greek truck for five gold pounds in which they continued to ... Galaxidi until a suitable boat was found. The entire group is said to have stayed in Galaxidi. The English officer was in charge of accommodation and supplies."

It is old Charles Warren who tells the end of the story. "My mother had cousins in England and they asked about Allan at the end of the war," he said yesterday. "The British War Office asked them to stop making inquiries."

"I saw his name on the Australian war memorial at Phaleron outside Athens in

1965. But that was all. I was told he got his men on to the boat but ran out of petrol, and that when they found him he was wearing the clothes of a Greek Orthodox priest."

"All we were told that he was taken to Salonika and had tried to dig a tunnel from his cell. The Germans drove a bulldozer round the prison and found the tunnel when the earth collapsed under the machine. One of the Russian escapees was in his cell and survived the war. He said later that the Gestapo came for Allan at three in the afternoon. He was never seen again, and we never really found out what happened then."

One reason why David Warren's last mission still remains something of a mystery is that Allied officials — most probably Americans, long after the war — censored the report of the young Wehrmacht intelligence officer who wrote about the Allied prisoners on May 8, 1944.

The anonymous censors were presumably more interested in the name of the officer who wrote it — Dr Kurt Waldheim — than they were in the fate of the young Australian-born British agent about whom it was partly written.

Between the 31 deletions in thick black ink, it is just possible to make out what Dr Waldheim wrote. Captain Warren — that Warren did not want the Greeks who were accompanying him to involve themselves in sabotage and that he "did not want to give a description of his own work".

According to the German report, Warren — who had only days before his execution — was told by the German interrogation officer that he "need not give any description of his comrades".

It sounds from the Waldheim report as if Warren was, therefore, not tortured. "I am relieved to hear that after all these years," his brother



Mr Charles Warren with a wartime photograph of his brother David, a young SOE officer whose doomed mission has been shrouded in obscurity by the pen of an anonymous censor.

Charles said, "I only wish his mother could have known that, but she is dead now."

Mr Charles Warren and Mr Woodhouse now agree that the SOE officer met his end on or just after May 14 — the day that, according to the Wehrmacht stamp on the top of the German report, Dr Waldheim's document reached his superiors. There is no indication that Dr Waldheim ever saw Warren himself.

Mr Woodhouse said yesterday that his own inquiries led him to believe that Warren

was taken from his cell at 11pm, at night not in the afternoon.

But what may have sealed Captain Warren's fate was the suspicion — included in some detail in the German intelligence file — that the British Military Mission in occupied Greece was using escaped Soviet soldiers as agents, taking them to SOE headquarters in Cairo for sabotage training and then parachuting them back into Greece. The Germans thought that Warren and his colleagues were arriv-

ing in Greece on a sabotage mission, not trying to escape.

"It's true that we wanted the Russians to escape," Mr Woodhouse said yesterday. "If the Germans thought there was some kind of high-level plot of a political kind, that is nonsensical — although I can quite understand why the Germans should have put their own interpretation on it."

Just who Warren's Russian and Polish POW colleagues on that last boat were is still unclear.

Austria marks date it prefers to forget

From Richard Bassett  
Vienna

Count Maximilian Thurn von Valsassina, who is still a towering 6ft 7in as he approaches 80, was an unlikely victim of the Nazi annexation of Austria 50 years ago.

As Austria commemorates today its extinction as a republic, a dwindling but still numerous group of Austrians living in the country remembers the day that forced them to abandon their homeland.

Unlike most of the tens of thousands of Austrian Jews who fled or were exterminated, these Austrians returned after the war. Some hoped to rebuild the republic they had known.

In the present furor over the integrity of President Waldheim, these Austrians, not surprisingly, feel dismay at the invective launched against their country.

The influential Chamber of Commerce welcomed the Nazi annexation. The words "Heil Hitler" rang out through the imposing Palace of Industry on the Schwarzenbergplatz. Only three members refused to give the Nazi salute. Two were sons of wealthy Austrian Jewish families: the third, blond and Aryan, was Count Maximilian.

From that moment he was a marked man. Within 24 hours the Gestapo would be knocking on his door. Reluctantly he decided to flee, and reached South America where he spent the war. Educated in England during the late 1920s, he concedes readily that he per-

ceived the Anschluss in a way different from many of his friends and even from some of his relatives.

Fifty years later, however, he shows tolerance for that army of Austrian wobblers who trimmed their sails to the Nazi wind. "You must remember, Austria was diplomatically isolated. London's advice to Vienna in her moment of crisis, during her 'Isle of March', amounted to 'If rape is inevitable, relax and enjoy it.' One Austrian who did precisely that was Herr Wolfgang Banda, now a retired bank clerk but in 1938, as he

admits today, a fanatical Nazi.

"That was oratory!" Herr Banda observed yesterday in his small flat near the Danube as he turned up an Austrian radio broadcast of Hitler's famous Heldenplatz speech of 50 years ago.

"Listen to that man's words: of course we should 'Heil Hitler, eis Reich' until we were blue in the face. Suddenly there was work. My mother's pension, which had not been paid for seven years, was restored. There was Ordnung."

Herr Banda admits that, with the benefit of hindsight,

the Nazis were not all he hoped.

Perhaps given the social conditions of the time, it was inevitable that, for every tolerant, well-educated Maximilian Thurn, there were thousands of Wolfgang Bandas.

"You cannot comprehend the chaos and hatred of pre-1938 Austria," another Austrian who fled the Nazis but decided to return after the war insisted yesterday.

The class hatred of the 1930s in Austria still persists in the supposedly classless world of consensus politics today. The prewar hatred of

Former SS man in murder retrial

From John England, Bonn

Thalman's death, which the Nazis at the time said was due to an Allied air raid. He told the court: "I knew nothing about Thalman."

He added that as the NCO in charge of the camp office who saw all its post and handled secret documents for the commandant, "I should have known that he was to be brought to the camp."

Thalman was shot several times outside the camp crematorium and his body was thrown immediately into a pre-heated oven.

Herr Otto's appearance in court yesterday was seen as opening the final stage of a 26-year campaign by Thalman's daughter, Frau Irma Gabel-Thalman, of East Berlin, to bring her father's killers to justice. State public prosecutors closed their files on Herr Otto six times before she was able to force the abortive trial in Krefeld.

Speaking outside the court she said yesterday: "We want only justice, no more than that." She is a co-plaintiff in the trial.

A United States military court in the former Dachau camp in 1947 sentenced Herr Otto to 20 years in jail for involvement in the murder of 15 Poles and Yugoslavs. He was released five years later for "good behaviour".

He became a teacher, but had to give up his job in 1962 after an East Berlin lawyer brought charges against him in connection with the murder.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Soviet police to round up rioters

Moscow — A special Soviet police team has been despatched to the Azerbaijani city of Sumgait in an effort to round up participants in ethnic violence there on February 28 in which, according to official figures, 32 people died which, according to official figures, 32 people died which, according to official figures, 32 people died.

According to Armenian witnesses, gangs of Muslim Azerbaijanis hunted members of the Christian Armenian minority through streets and blocks of flats, killing, raping and looting as they went and only being restrained when a military curfew was imposed of the special police squad was rioting began. The despatch of the special police squad was announced on Armenian television by Mr Vasily Trushkin, the Soviet Union's First Deputy Interior Minister, in a broadcast designed to calm Armenians angered by rumours of atrocities in the city.

Delay on spy book

Canberra — After millions of words of legal argument in the Australian courts spanning two and a half years, the finale of the long-running *Spycatcher* saga yesterday ended in anti-climax with the seven judges of the High Court reserving judgement for at least two months (Our Correspondent writes).

The hearing closed with stinging attacks by Mr Malcolm Turnbull, the lawyer representing Mr Peter Wright, the ex-MI5 officer who wrote the book, on the British Government and on Sir Robert Armstrong, the former Cabinet Secretary and principal witness at the earlier court appeals.

Mr Turnbull accused the Government of "incompetence" and Sir Robert of giving "false evidence".

Sentenced to death

Harare — A black Zimbabwean has been sentenced to death for the murder in November 1985, of Douglas "Boss" Lilford, the financier and first chairman of the former Rhodesian Front party. (Jan Raath writes).

Local press reports yesterday said that Moses Mabhema, aged 30, had been found guilty of shooting Mr Lilford, aged 77, in the back of the head after he and six others had broken into the fortress-like homestead of Lilford's farm west of Harare. The gang believed that Mr Lilford kept £2.5 million in a safe.

Mr Lilford, a tobacco and horse-racing millionaire, was a founder member of the Rhodesian Front party of Mr Ian Smith, the former Prime Minister of Rhodesia.

White House surgery

Washington (Reuters) — Mrs Nancy Reagan had a small non-cancerous growth removed from above her upper lip at the White House at the weekend, Miss Elaine Crispin, her press secretary, said last night. She described the growth as "an actinic keratosis, or thickening of the skin" caused by over-exposure to the sun.

Laboratory tests on Monday showed the tissue to be benign and no further procedures were needed, Miss Crispin said. In 1982 a small lesion diagnosed as a common non-fatal form of skin cancer was removed from her face.

Moscow accused

Johannesburg — South Africa yesterday accused the Soviet Union of being the "main destabiliser" in the African sub-continent and said that this was why Moscow was not prepared to accept in Angola what it was prepared to accept in Afghanistan (Michael Hornsby writes).

The comment came as Angolan officials claimed that South African troops were moving deeper into Angola in support of rebel Unita forces near Cuito, on the Benguela railway in central Bie province. South Africa dismissed the claims.

Swoop in Eta hunt

Madrid — Hundreds of police, supported by helicopters and cars and vans, made a surprise search yesterday of flats in the working class dormitory suburb of Alcorcon, nine miles from here, in an effort to find Señor Emiliano Revilla, a wealthy businessman kidnapped by Eta 15 days ago (Harry Debelius writes).

In Bilbao, a policeman was injured on Wednesday night by a suitcase bomb which had been placed at the door of an office. The device exploded when he approached it after police received a call to investigate.

Mafia suspects held

Rome (Reuters) — More than 100 people, including a former priest, were arrested in a widespread swoop against Mafia suspects in Sicily only three months after a Palermo court sentenced 340 gangsters to long jail terms, police said yesterday. More than 1,000 officers took part in the operation which began two days ago and is continuing. Police said the operation was made possible because of information from Antonio Calderone, a "repentant" Mafia boss. Among those arrested was Agostino Coppola, a former priest convicted for Mafia kidnappings in the 1970s.

Super Tuesday victim

Kemp pulls out of presidential race

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Congressman Jack Kemp, once the shining star of the conservative Republicans, yesterday withdrew from the presidential race, after coming a distant fourth in the elections on Tuesday. He did not declare his support for anyone else, but left the way open for possible nomination as a vice-presidential running mate to Mr George Bush, the likely nominee.

Meanwhile, on the Democratic side, Mr Gary Hart — once the front-runner until the scandal involving Miss Donna Rice is expected to announce in Colorado today that he is pulling out of the race as well. Since re-entering in November with little money or staff, he has been virtually ignored by voters. His withdrawal has been prompted by a threat to cut off remaining federal matching funds because he has done so poorly at the polls.

Mr Kemp, though withdrawing from the campaign, pledged to carry the flag for conservative causes, and said that the principles for which he stood were winning. He attributed his failure to the fact that it was his first presidential campaign.

When asked if it was his last campaign, he replied emphatically "No way," while his supporters chanted: "Kemp '92. Kemp '92." However, he announced that he will not run again for the House of Representatives, where he has served 18 years as a congressman for Buffalo, Nor will he seek election to the Senate.

But in a hint that he might be available for the second spot on this year's Republican

ticket, he added: "Obviously one doesn't run for the vice-presidency — and I don't expect it."

In a cheerful and resolute speech that reflected the upbeat optimism of his campaign, Mr Kemp said he had "fought the good fight — long and hard and well". His supporters could hold their heads high because they had waged an "honourable, spirited and principled campaign on issues and ideas".

But he said there was a time to refrain, accept defeat in one battle so that he could move on to fight again. He saluted his fellow Republican candidates, particularly congratulating Mr Bush, and said the whole party was now conservative.

He insisted that, despite a political defeat, his ideas were winning: his support for the Strategic Defence Initiative, his refusal to raise taxes, anti-abortion and pro-family policies were all now accepted by all the Republican candidates.

The former professional football quarterback, and one of the architects of Mr Reagan's supply-side economic policies, won 35 committed delegates during the campaign. Most of them were handed to him by Mr Bush in a Michigan compromise designed to prevent Mr Pat Robertson from claiming victory there. On Tuesday, he won only four delegates throughout the 20 states.

Mr Kemp spent \$15 million (£8.1 million) on his campaign, and leaves with debts of less than \$100,000.

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WORLD ROUNDUP  
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## Siberia's musical hijackers aimed for London

From Christopher Walker  
Moscow

In one of the most bizarre hijackings ever attempted, 11 members of a Siberian family of musical entertainers tried to commandeer a Tu-154 Soviet airliner during an internal flight on Tuesday and force it to fly to London.

According to Soviet press accounts of the incident, which ended with an anti-terrorist squad storming the plane, the unlikely air pirates included an entire jazz ensemble from the Siberian city of Irkutsk called "The Seven Simeons" who smuggled sawn-off shotguns and explosives on to the plane in their instrument cases.

Tass, the official Soviet news agency, said that five of the family, the Ovechkins, were killed in the

operation as well as a stewardess and three passengers. A further 20 passengers are in hospital but their condition is unknown.

Izvestia said that the brothers were accompanied by their mother, Mrs Nina Ovechkin, a widow in her 50s who held the honoured title of "Hero Mother" for having 10 children whom she had brought up almost single-handed. It implied that three sisters were also involved.

The official government paper said that the family boarded the airliner in Irkutsk, where they were regular entertainers at the local council's cultural department, with several small children who were not identified.

They staged the hijack attempt after the stop-over at Kurgan, east of the Urals, demanding to be flown to

a capitalist country, to London". Another Soviet paper quoted a note which they handed to a stewardess stating: "We demand a change of course. Fly to London. Or else we will blow up the plane together with the passengers."

Tass said that then "the pilots reported what had happened to ground control. The following plan was adopted for an operation against the criminals: they were told that a refuelling stop was needed to meet their demand and the airliner made an unscheduled landing."

"A task force was waiting for it at an airfield outside Leningrad. When its members made their way inside the plane, the terrorists opened fire."

Izvestia suggested that the storming of the plane was bungled. It

quoted the flight crew as telling the hijackers that they were landing at the Finnish town of Kotka, while in fact bringing the airliner down at a military airfield outside Leningrad where troops were ready to storm on board. As the plane touched down, both passengers and hijackers could see the soldiers running towards it, and it was at that point that the Ovechkins fired their first shots.

Five members of the anti-terrorist squad broke into the pilots' cabin and tried to storm into the passenger section from there, but the family fought them off in a vicious exchange of fire and they were forced to retreat, with two of their number wounded.

Ten minutes later there was an explosion at the rear of the plane, apparently caused by the hijackers

and panic ensued as the airliner caught fire.

Izvestia quoted eyewitnesses as saying that in apparent despair, the Ovechkin brothers shot their mother and then two of them shot themselves. A third died in the explosion.

The account, much more graphic than anything which has appeared about previous Soviet hijackings, said that one of the musical brothers, Mr Igor Ovechkin, escaped with three small children through a hatch with other passengers and was later caught hiding in a car on the airfield. If convicted he and other survivors from the hijack team will face death by firing squad under Soviet law.

The paper said there had been a total of 76 passengers including the Ovechkins, four flight crew and three stewardesses on the airliner.

## HOW LOW IS YOUR MORTGAGE RATE?

## EEC follows Israel trade curbs with censure of violence

Strasbourg (Reuter) - The European Parliament delivered one of its harshest attacks on Israel yesterday - one day after rejecting trade accords with Jerusalem because of the violent conflicts in the occupied territories.

In an unprecedented decision, the Parliament used recently acquired powers on Wednesday to block three European Community trade accords with Israel.

The chamber, which had until recently been fairly muted in its criticism of Israel, followed up its move by condemning "the instances of torture, arbitrary arrest, reprisals, expulsions and all acts of violence committed by the Israeli Army against the Palestinian population".

It said: "The Parliament expresses its solidarity with the families of the victims, and more generally with all Palestinians throughout the region living in what are now intolerable conditions."

Members said that the attitude of the assembly had shifted against Israel partly in reflection of growing opposition among people in Europe to Jerusalem's harsh crackdown on the refugee

unrest in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The trade decision means that the arrangements could have to be renegotiated.

M Claude Cheysson, the EEC Commissioner, said that while the accords were not very significant, the move was important politically. He told the Parliament: "The most important subject is the present tragedy in the occupied territories. We have to get down to the root causes of the situation. The cause is the occupation of these territories and the denial of these people's rights."

The trade accords would provide Israel with 63 million European Currency Units (\$77 million) in European Investment Bank loans and cut tariffs for certain Israeli exports, notably cut flowers. Diplomatic sources said Israeli exporters had already lost some \$50 million (£27 million) during the September-April season because of delays in approving the deal.

The accords also took account of the entry of Spain and Portugal into the EEC in 1986 by providing the same tariff reductions as for the other 10 members. The delay

on that part of the deal will hit both Israeli exports to Spain and Portugal as well as Spanish and Portuguese exports to Israel.

However, offering some hope for the future approval of the accords, M Cheysson said that progress had been made on a separate issue allowing Palestinians in the occupied territories to export their produce directly to the EEC without going through state marketing bodies.

In Israel, the Foreign Ministry said: "We regret that the protocol agreement was not honoured by the European Parliament. We feel that those who opposed the ratification were mistaken in doing so, and we expect that, with the necessary clarification, the issue will soon be brought again before the Parliament."

Mr Aryeh Nehamkin, the Agriculture Minister, said: "We fulfilled all our promises regarding export. In contrast to Israeli citizens, they (Palestinians) receive many privileges. The events in the territories alerted the members of Parliament and this is the result. It is more of a blow to the... relations than the economy."

## Barriers on the West Bank



A Palestinian woman passing an Israeli soldier as she returns with her shopping to the Kalandia refugee camp on the West Bank yesterday. Cement-filled drums block vehicle access and force the camp's occupants to weave through narrow gaps to enter or leave.

## Knesset MP sees growing danger of a settlers' uprising

From Ian Murray  
Jerusalem

After a two-hour running battle between Arabs and Jewish West Bank settlers through the streets of Hebron late on Wednesday night, a National Religious Party Knesset member, Mr Haim Druckman, has said that it is only a matter of time before there is a settlers' uprising if the Government does not take tougher action against Palestinians.

He spoke not long after Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the Defence Min-

ister, said that protecting road links to Israeli settlements in the occupied territories was taking up to half of the army's time and was preventing it from seizing the initiative. The problem of restoring calm "would be much simpler if all the territory was Arab territory devoid of any Jewish settlements". He viewed recent clashes between settlers and Arabs as "a very grave development which will intensify the problem".

These remarks brought an outraged telegram yesterday from Mr Shlomo Katan, chairman of the

council of Alfei Menashe settlement in the West Bank. He accused the Defence Minister of dereliction of duty in sending soldiers without motivation to serve in the territories.

Clashes between settlers and Palestinians now occur on a daily basis. On Tuesday the Army had to intervene to separate settlers from Ariel and Arabs from the nearby village of Khaneh, which is said to be a base for youths stoning Israeli cars on the main road to the West Bank settlement.

A raiding party from Ariel was

said to have set two Arab cars on fire and to have stopped Palestinians going to work in Israel. The settlers complain that their cars are constantly stoned and even petrol-bombed, and say that as long as they cannot travel in peace they will not allow the Arabs to do so.

They chopped down olive trees by the road which were said to be used as cover for stone-throwers. On at least one occasion the Army has had to evict settlers from the village when it went in to make arrests.

Mr Ron Nachman, the mayor of

Ariel, has meanwhile started a campaign for a much larger police force to help restore calm.

In Hebron the trouble began when Arabs found a Palestinian car on fire and blamed settlers for it. More than 100 Palestinians started stoning two small Jewish settlements.

The Jews called for help from the nearby settlement of Kiryat Arba and more than 100 people arrived. The running battle ended only when an army patrol intervened, firing live ammunition that wounded three Palestinians.

## Trimmer Mitterrand cultivates his home turf

From Philip Jacobson  
Château-Chinon

It was half blowing a blizzard when the helicopter carrying President Mitterrand back to his political homeland made a cautious approach to the municipal football stadium. Some of the locals waiting to cheer his arrival yesterday had warned us that the weather might keep him away.

But before the blades had stopped turning, the President was out and shaking hands, bare-headed in the biting cold.

Officially M François Mitterrand was in Château-Chinon to dedicate a new fountain in front of the *mairie*. Unofficially the large contingent of journalists who followed him here was hoping that he might choose the occasion of his return to the little town in Burgundy where he was mayor for more than 20 years to tell the nation if he is going to seek a second term in next month's presidential elections.

M Mitterrand did not

oblige, contenting himself with some wry observations about the charms of Château-Chinon that had drawn the media crowd all the way from Paris. The new fountain, an elaborate affair of coloured shapes, was duly initiated.

What the presidential visit did confirm is that M Mitterrand has lost none of his warmth and personal touch. Dishing out decorations to local notables, breaking away from his dismaying security cordon to embrace an old friend in the crowd, he was utterly at home.

Try as they might, this does

not come easily to either of his two main conservative rivals. M Jacques Chirac, alias "the perpetual motion man", is always glancing mentally at his watch, desperate to move on somewhere, anywhere. By contrast, M Raymond Barre's problem appears to be that he would prefer to spend his time on the campaign trail eating splendid lunches with the bastions of the bourgeoisie.

The more the shadow-boxing that constitutes M Mitterrand's pre-election strategy continues, the more one understands why he is intent

on exploiting the endless opportunities provided for addressing the French from the Elysée Palace. It hardly seems to matter to the public that he has cut and trimmed more than almost any contemporary French politician. "A President for all seasons" is how one of his aides describes him today, and towns like Château-Chinon endorse the judgement.

Four decades have passed since the youthful François Mitterrand first presented himself to the electors of the lovely Morvan region, but

plenty of people here still remember the eager young politician who chugged around the country roads in an ancient Citroën.

"We don't normally trust outsiders much, but he has never let us down and has always remained a friendly and approachable figure," says one businessman. "I still couldn't tell you much about his political philosophy, but I know that he cares deeply about this community and that is enough to get my vote."

It certainly does not hurt that M Mitterrand's concern

for Château-Chinon has contributed much to the town's evident prosperity. The area does not appear to be suffering much from the unemployment affecting other regions.

The fine highway bringing visitors up through the foothills of the Morvan range to Château-Chinon is also attributed to the Mitterrand years as local MP. As residents will acknowledge, it is a great help with the booming tourist trade attracted by the Musée du Septennat, stocked with the many and varied gifts he has received in his first seven years as President.

Before M Mitterrand arrived yesterday, a host of security men had descended upon Château-Chinon, levering up manholes for inspection, even testing the new fountain's mechanism.

A cheerful farmer who had driven in for the great day assured me that all this was quite unnecessary. "Tonton (Uncle) François has no enemies around here."

## Pasqua plays the heavy on French television

Paris - *Ce terrible Monsieur Pasqua* is the title of a book just published about the French Minister of the Interior, M Charles Pasqua (Susan MacDonald writes). The man people love to hate did not disappoint viewers during a television interview on Wednesday.

M Pasqua wore his best hang-dog expression to describe the fate that would befall the French if they let the

Socialists back into power by re-electing President Mitterrand in the forthcoming presidential elections.

He was less at ease when questioned about the tactics behind his successful clampdown on terrorism, crime and delinquency in the two years the right-wing Chirac Government has been in power. There were questions about the tapping of journalists' telephones and a

plan to deport hundreds of North Africans, at present serving jail sentences in France, on the eve of the elections.

It was alleged the Government was planning a mass deportation before the elections in order to draw away votes from the National Front, which wants all North African immigrants expelled. M Pasqua said the move was an attempt to relieve overcrowding in prisons.

## Discord in Suharto's Indonesia

## General shatters serene consensus

From Gavin Bell  
Jakarta

The final years of the long reign of President Suharto of Indonesia have begun in rare confusion and discord, with an unprecedented challenge to his authority.

It was a day of mixed fortunes yesterday for the 66-year-old former army general who has ruled the strategic archipelago with a firm hand for more than two decades.

After being elected unopposed for what is expected to be his last five-year term, he was confronted by disturbing evidence of unrest in the armed forces and an embarrassing political conflict over his choice of Vice-President.

There was no hint of dissent among members of the Consultative Assembly, a plenary session of Parliament, which approved his nomination in the customary manner by calling out "Seribu" (Agreed). But the applause had barely died away when a senior army

officer astonished the assembly by protesting about the selection of the Vice-President.

Brigadier-General Ibrahim Saleh, a floor leader of the powerful armed forces' faction (Abri) in Parliament, strode to the rostrum and declared that the military was troubled by rumours that the vice-presidential election was not being conducted fairly.

His objection was cut short by officials who hustled him away.

The President has put forward Mr Sudharmono, the State Secretary and chairman of the ruling Golkar Party, and made it abundantly clear he does not wish his man to be challenged. But Dr Jaijani Naro, chairman of the small United Development Party, has entered the race.

By Western parliamentary standards, General Saleh's intervention was mundane. In Indonesia's serene climate of government by consensus, it was dramatic. The incident

followed persistent reports that senior officers are opposed to Mr Sudharmono, who does not have a strong military background (an army lawyer rather than a combat officer) and is suspected of having had vaguely left-wing tendencies.

Analysts said it may also reflect antipathy between Mr Sudharmono and General Benny Murdani, who was replaced recently as commander of the armed forces. Both are among President Suharto's closest and most loyal aides, and General Murdani is expected to be given a key Cabinet post.

Dr Naro has no hope of being elected, but his action is seen as a cautious attempt to secure liberal reforms.

Leaders of the five political factions met with the assembly chairman yesterday in an apparent attempt to resolve the issue by having Dr Naro withdraw his candidature, but he refused to do so.


Eventually a letter was dispatched to President Suharto,

who did not attend any of these proceedings, asking him in effect whether he would have difficulty in co-operating with either of the candidates. No response to this delicately-phrased question was immediately forthcoming, leaving the situation late last night in deadlock.

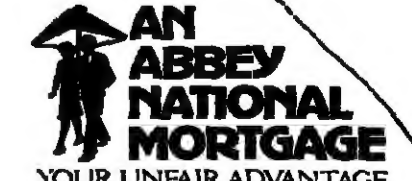
The assembly is due to decide on the issue today after President Suharto is inaugurated, and intense speculation continued over whether it would come to a vote.

President Suharto has stated unequivocally that he regards such practices as counter to the state ideology of *pancasila*, embodying a peculiar form of democracy by consensus.

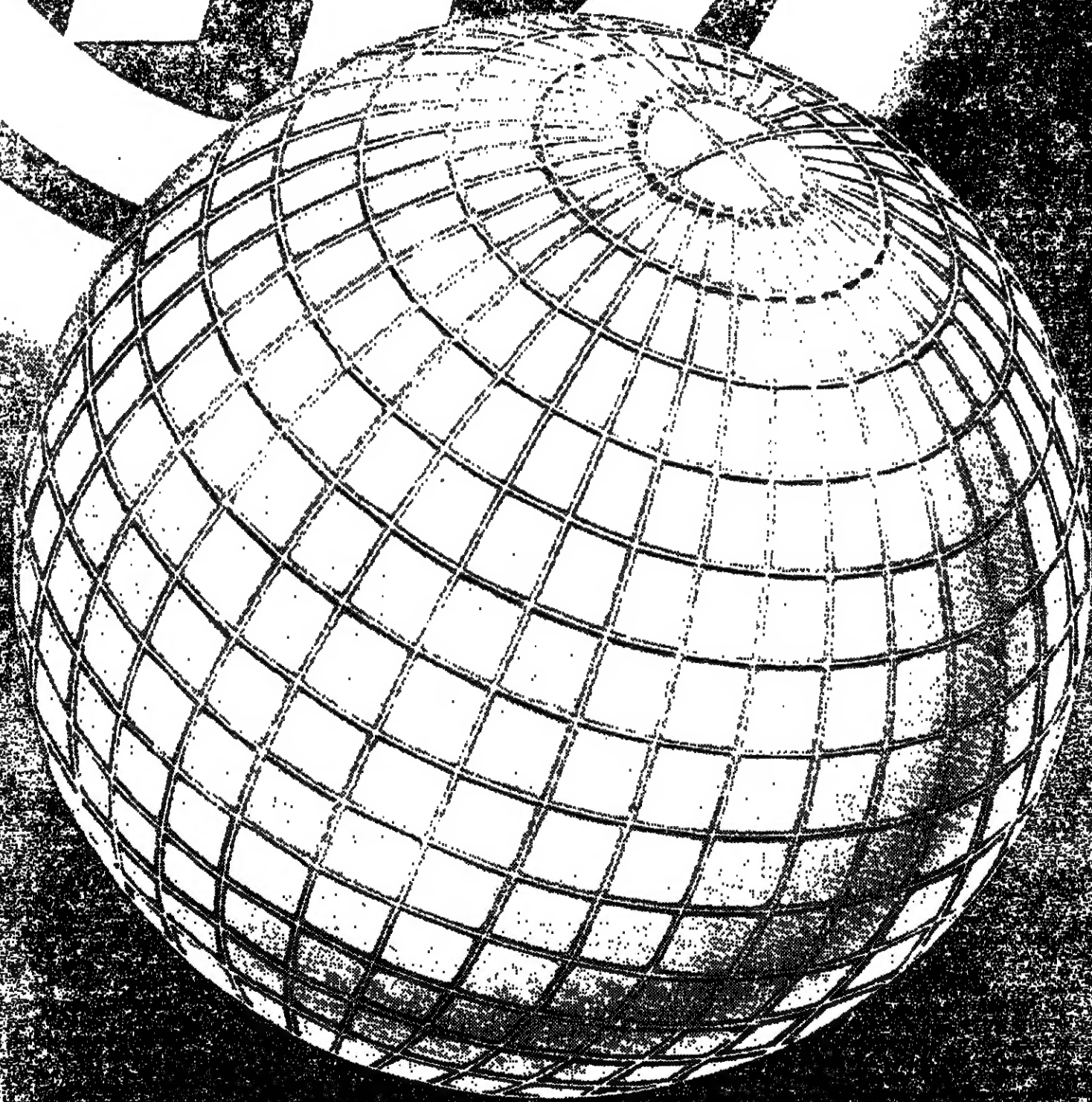
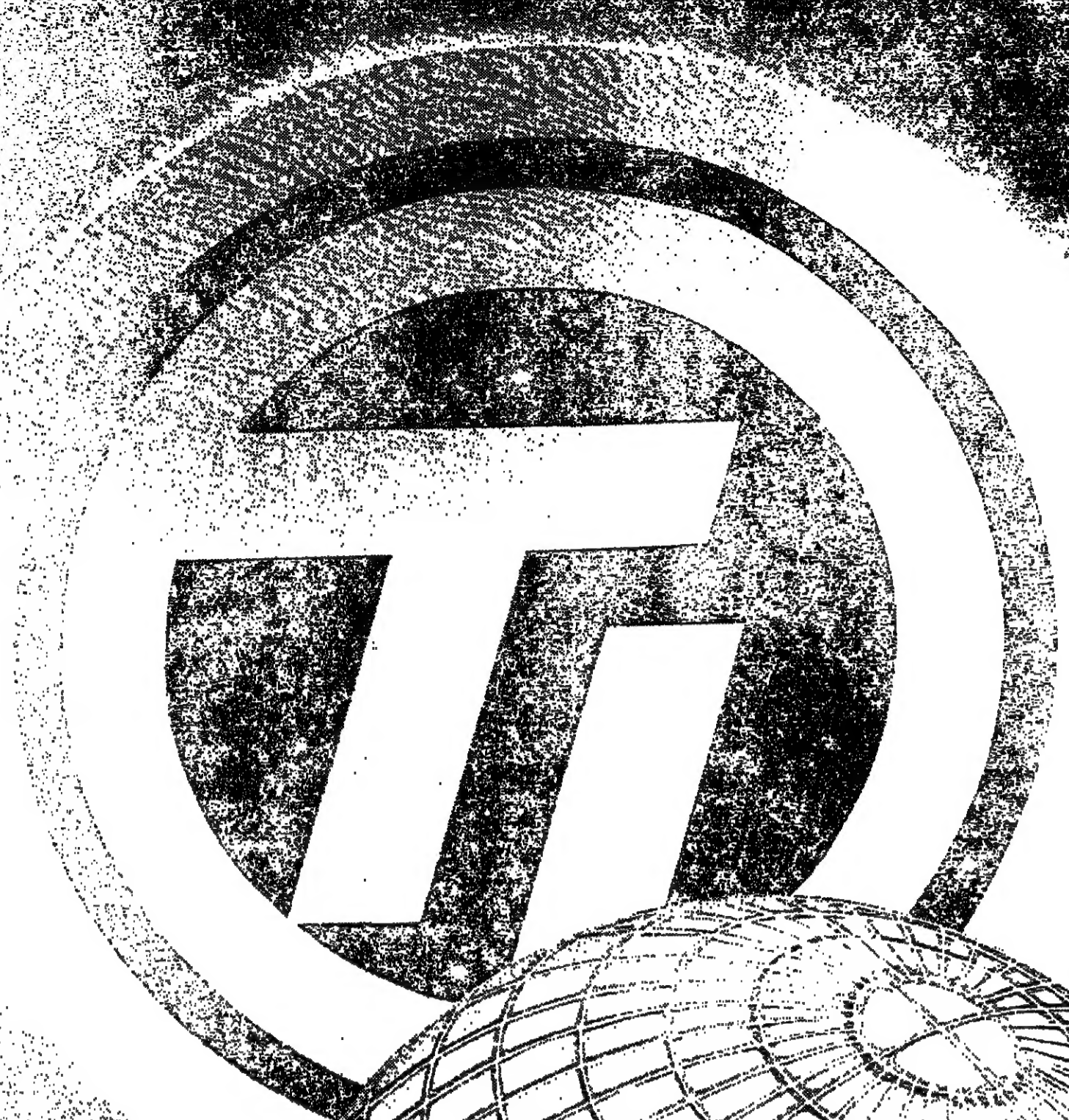
There seems little doubt President Suharto will resolve the conflict with his customary machiavellian flair, but questions are beginning to be raised whether he may have miscalculated the cautious moves for greater freedom of expression.

  
**WILLIAM MORRIS DESERVES HANGING**  
This month's issue of the magazine looks at how Sandersons recreate the original wallpaper designs of William Morris - and the unique technique of hand block printing.  
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EXAMPLE: A couple (cash and deposit) who are in a mortgage of £10,000 secured over 25 years wishing to purchase a property for £12,000. Monthly mortgage payments of £100.00 would be required. All mortgage rates are subject to change and are available from Abbey National Building Society. Mortgage Service MBS JAN. 88

  
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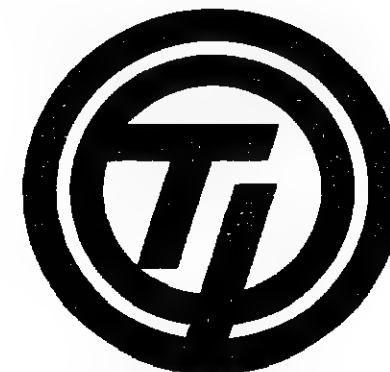
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- Earnings up 26.5% to 29.6p per share (1986: 23.4p per share)
- Recommended dividend for 1987 up 25% at 10p (1986: 8p)
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**THE STRATEGY CONTINUES  
TO TAKE SHAPE**

For further information about the TI Group contact the Department of Public Affairs, TI Group plc, 50 Curzon Street, London W1Y 7PN.



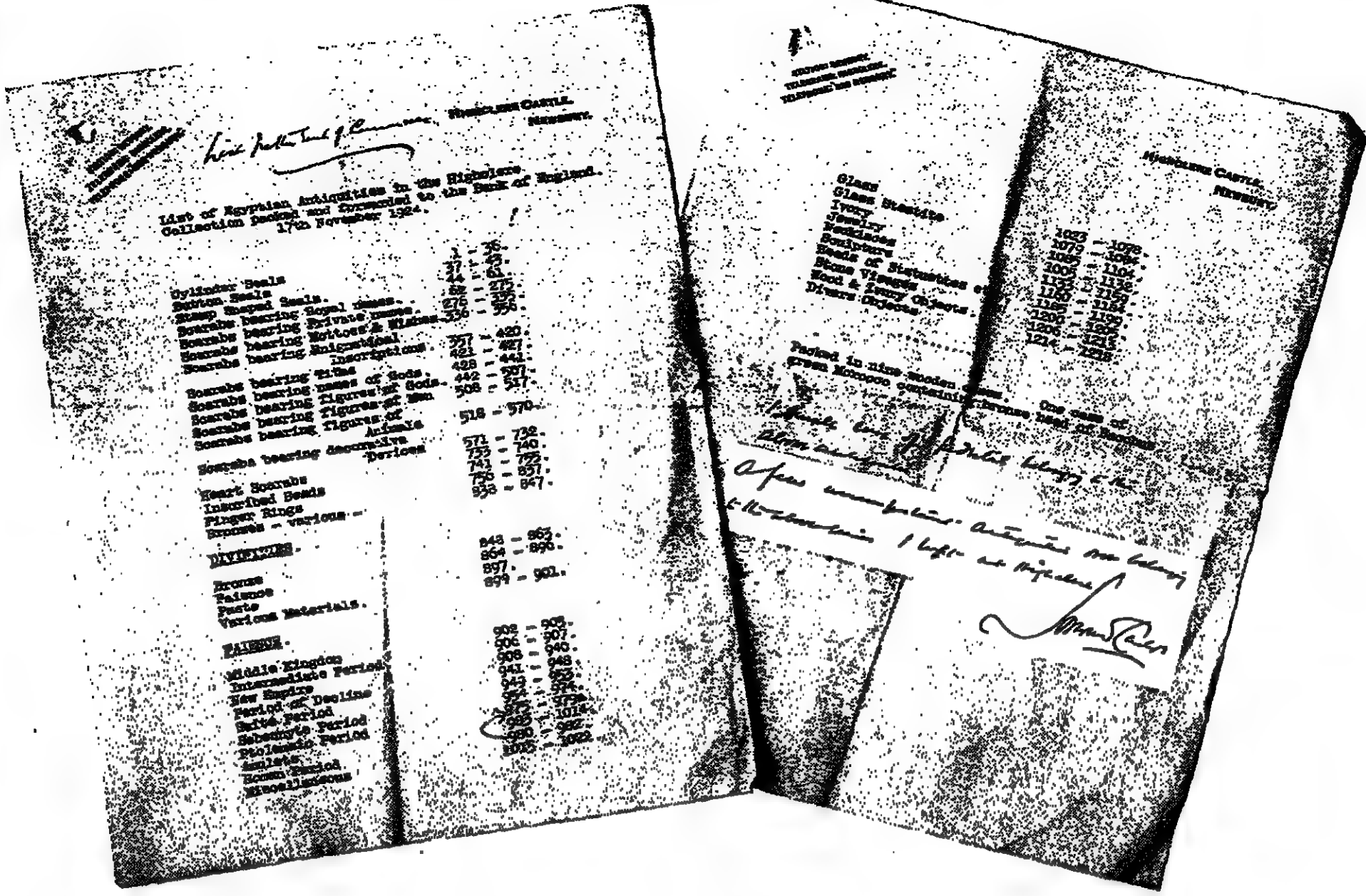




# Treasure hunt at Highclere



After the initial discovery of the Egyptian relics in a forgotten cupboard, Lord Carnarvon called in British Museum experts and a search of his stately home was organized. In a long-disused junk room, more of his grandfather's collection was discovered. It was a triumphal moment. A mystery that had been puzzling Egyptologists was solved at last and the final chapter written in the amazing story linking Howard Carter and the fifth Earl (together above) with the ancient kingdoms of the Nile. Bryan Appleyard reports



Cue to a collection: Howard Carter's inventory of the items sent to the Bank of England, with his postscript: 'A few unimportant antiquities not belonging to the above series I left at Highclere' (highlighted)

Secrecy was the first thing on the mind of the present Lord Carnarvon when he discovered the contents of the hidden cupboards. Anything Egyptian immediately evoked the name of Tutankhamun and he thought the newly-discovered pieces must be from the young King's tomb — treasures from one of the great archaeological finds of all time. If they were, they could start another row with the Egyptian Government as to who really owned them. As late as December 1987, the Egyptians were protesting about the sale at Christie's of a gold fragment said to have come from the tomb.



PHARAOHS' HOARD

Sotheby's expert, however, soon made it clear that none of the material seemed to have any direct connections with Tutankhamun's tomb. "They said they were very interesting but they did not think they were from Tutankhamun," Lord Carnarvon recalls. The contents of the cupboards were first taken by Sotheby's to London and then returned to Highclere, where Dr Nicholas Reeves of the British Museum began to study them more closely. He had been told of the find by his boss, Harry James, Keeper of Egyptian Antiquities at the British Museum, and sent to do further work on the objects at Highclere. In October, they decided to check elsewhere in

the house. The first stop was a room once used by the fifth Earl as a darkroom. This was in a remote part of the house, disused for years. It was next to a large room in which the sons of a member of the staff had played table tennis. It was dusty and full of junk. "There were bits of wood on the floor that you wouldn't normally have noticed," Lord Carnarvon says, "and they turned out to be shabti figures (funerary servants) and fragments of a jewel box. Dr Reeves just put the fragments together on the spot and there it was, a jewel box he had recognized from Carter's work. On one side of the room there was a glass display case and that turned out to be littered with antiquities. "Dr Reeves was very excited. It was as if he had won the pools. This was his field, of course, and he had never expected to be involved in anything so important."

In addition, Robert Taylor, the retired butler, then remembered a piece of stone he had seen in a housekeeper's drawer. This turned out to be yet another treasure, a fragment covered in hieroglyphs. In November, Lord Carnarvon was sifting through the mess in the darkroom once more and found, stuck to the old paint on the window sill, a miniature bronze axehead and, under the radiator, a scarab, the sacred beetle of ancient Egypt. In Highclere's Muniment Room, one last find awaited them. There, amid the old documents of the estate, was a large jar. They turned it round and discovered unmistakably Egyptian markings. It was one of the 13 alabaster jars discovered in the Valley of the Kings in 1920 and dug out of the ground by the fifth Earl's wife, Almina. "I always knew there were pieces missing from Carter's excavations," says Dr Reeves, "but I never thought it was worth asking at Highclere — probably because I thought I would never get anywhere. I knew the Egyptian connection had been severed long before."

It was extraordinary to find myself having lunch there. It is a place with great romantic associations for anybody in my field — the place where Howard Carter did much of his work. I recognized the royal stuff straightaway from Howard Carter's notes, and some of the pieces were familiar from Carter and Lord Carnarvon's book on their excavations at Thebes. So the Highclere find represents an extraordinary filling in of the gaps in the long and complex story of Howard Carter, Tutankhamun and the fifth Earl of Carnarvon. Harry James says: "Carter was one of the first really modern excavators in Egypt. He showed an accuracy, care and system in his work which had been sadly lacking previously. This meant he could learn far more from his finds than any previous archaeologist. The fact that many of these objects can be matched with his notes and his books makes them doubly valuable. It means we know exactly what they are and where they came from."

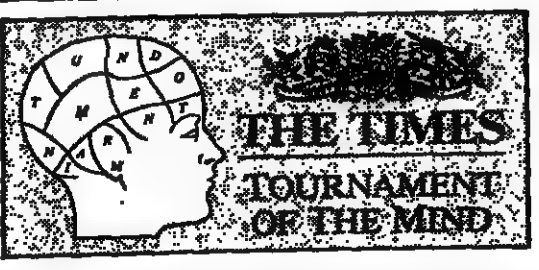


I thought I knew every nook and cranny of the place: the present Earl and Countess of Carnarvon at the home that held so many surprises

Scholars had known of the pieces from Carter's notes and from his book, but they seemed to have vanished. The only clue to the fact that they were still at Highclere was Carter's note scribbled at the end of the list he sent to the Bank of England and that, too, had lain undiscovered at the Castle for more than 60 years. Who put the objects in the cupboard remains a mystery. It is not even clear whether they were intended to be hidden. "It's difficult to say by just looking at the cupboards whether they were supposed to be concealed," Dr Reeves says. "I don't suppose any one person knows all the secrets of Highclere."

The current Lord Carnarvon knew nothing of their existence. "I lived in the castle until I went to the war," he says, "and I thought I knew every nook and cranny of the place," he says. "I was sure I knew Highclere better than anybody, and I was sure there was nothing there. "It's curious, but this is only the second thing I've ever gained from Tutankhamun. The first was during the war. I had three days leave in Cairo in 1943. I went there just for sightseeing and I didn't know whether I would have a room or anything. I arrived at Shepherd's Hotel and asked for a room. They looked horrified. They told me they only took officers of field rank and above. "Anyway, they asked for my name and when I said 'Porchester', a senior man behind the desk asked if I was Lord Carnarvon's son. When I said I was, I immediately got a room — some unfortunate Brigadier was thrown out. Until now that was the only way Tutankhamun had really affected my life."

The sixth Earl finally died in September last year. Known as "Porchey", he had spent much of his adult life seeking the affection and attention denied him by his fierce father. In the '30s, and again in the '50s, he had found them both in the small, tight community of the country house set in which he lived. In the '70s, he even found them in a mass audience when he appeared on chat shows as a representative of all the lovable daftness of the British aristocracy. "He was variously," one obituarist wrote, "a soldier, sportsman, gentleman-rider, bloodstock breeder, landowner, clubman and bon vivant. He was also a pillar of the Ritz Hotel, an amateur actor, relentless raconteur and most uncompromising ladies' man."



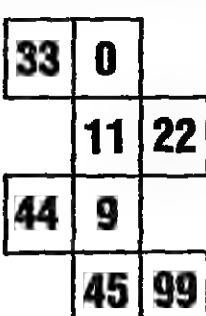
## Tournament of the Mind

● Round 16 of *The Times* Tournament of the Mind, with a £5,000 prize awaiting the individual winner and an IBM Personal System/2 Model 30 computer for the top school.

### ROUND SIXTEEN — QUESTIONS

#### 1. MATHS. Score 16

The following diagram is a strange dartboard. Using five darts at a time you must discover how many different ways there are of scoring a total of 99. Once you have used a combination of numbers you cannot use it again in a different order.



#### 2. MISCELLANEOUS. Score 24

A long distance leaking tanker travels at a speed of 65mph leaving a trail of petrol behind it which ignited at the moment the tanker set off. The flames follow the tanker at a speed of 55mph. The tanker stops after 187 and a half miles. How long will it be, to the nearest second, before it explodes?

#### GENERAL KNOWLEDGE. Score 2, 4, 4, 4, 2

1. Which saint's day falls the day after Christmas?
2. Who wrote the novel *Main Street* in 1920?
3. Which legendary Greek craftsman is reputed to have built the labyrinth for King Minos of Crete?
4. In which city was the Halle orchestra founded?
5. How many islands are there in the Hebrides group?



### ROUND 16 — ANSWERS

- Cut out your answers and keep this coupon until Round 20. Answers will be accepted only on coupons printed in *The Times*
- PUZZLES**  
Answer 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Answer 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
Answer 3 \_\_\_\_\_ Answer 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE**  
Answer 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
Answer 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
Answer 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Answer 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Answer 5 \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME \_\_\_\_\_

The stars play the guitars — but who pulls the strings? In *The Times* tomorrow we look at what it takes to be a pop svengali. Plus: a two-page guide to the arts and music festivals of the year

The Findings column will be returning to this page next week

### CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1511

**ACROSS**

- 1 Heavy hammer bolts (6)
- 2 Yanked (6)
- 3 Bombed (4)
- 4 Concocted (8)
- 5 Constitution (7)
- 6 Caulking fibre (5)
- 7 Aircraft film (2-6-5)
- 8 Find solution (5)
- 9 Rhine river's rock (7)
- 10 Obsessive bird-watcher (8)
- 11 First miracle town (4)
- 12 Tattered (6)
- 13 Stem flow (6)

**DOWN**

- 1 Pakistan capital (7)
- 2 S. Ken. art museum (11, 11)
- 3 Opening (5)
- 4 Verdian panel (4)
- 5 Ukrainian capital (7)
- 6 Fact (5)
- 7 Two times (5)
- 8 Channel Island mol-lusc (5)
- 9 Fragment rhinome (5)
- 10 Tooth cavity plug (7)
- 11 Gain knowledge (5)
- 12 Shari River lake (4)

**SOLUTION TO NO 1510**

**ACROSS:** 1 Carafe 4 Spirit 9 Monarch 10 River 11 Byre 12 Mat-fied 14 Nicene Creed 15 Marital 19 Gawd 22 Roach 24 In-agery 25 Lessen 26 Adhere

**DOWN:** 1 Comb 2 Runny 3 Forcemeat 5 Per 6 Revolve 7 T-ride 8 Chamberlain 11 Bin 13 Fireguard 15 Inroads 16 Dak 17 Amoral 20 Where 21 Tyke 23 Elie

Try all the questions — remember it's the top scores that count

#### 1. LOGIC. Score 16

If a cat has three lives and a dog has four lives but a poor old ape has one life, how many lives has an elephant? You'll find a clue in the letters of the words.

#### 2. LOGIC. Score 16

Can you find a three lettered word that fits between the brackets in such a way that it completes the word on the left and begins the word on the right.

CAR ( . . . ) AR



# TIMES DIARY

LORD ST JOHN  
OF FAWLEY

The other day I was summoned by the Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Barabito, to visit him at his residence at Wimbledon. This has long seemed to me not only to be a highly inconvenient address but one with an oddly bourgeois ring for such an exalted personage. When the Apostolic Nuncio (as it then was) was originally set up in 1935, it was looked on with the greatest suspicion by the English Roman Catholic bishops, who did not fancy having a papal agent to spy on them, and so an unobtrusive and distant habitat was chosen, leaving it to later generations to cope with the traffic jams.

The Bishop of London, when he still lived in the delectable Fulham Palace, used to keep a flat in central London for appointments; now Fulham is occupied by the local council and the Bishop's palace is found in Cowley Street. However, I digress. "I have," said His Excellency, "a great honour to confer on you from the Holy Father. Here is the *biglietto*." It's the hat, I thought, searching in my mind for the name of the last lay cardinal and coming up with that of Cardinal Mazarin in the 17th century.

I need not have bothered — it was an appointment to the Pontifical Council for Culture. This is a body set up by the present Pope to achieve in the cultural world what the Pontifical Academy has already brought about in the scientific one. The Council is anxious to promote cultural events in the member countries, and one which could be worth considering is an exhibition of contemporary ecclesiastical art and architecture, setting out what the Church is trying to say through this medium to the faithful and to the world in general.

I have secured one important ally in the president of the Royal Academy, Roger de Grey, so the dream could become reality. And perhaps His Holiness could be persuaded to come and open it.

Like many other people I am fascinated by owls, and last week I had a rare treat when I saw the magnificent form of a barn owl, with huge white and brown wingspan, sailing up and down a local hedge. The undeviating nature of its flight is due to a search for food, voles, mice and small birds which shelter in hedges.

The ineluctable truth about owls, despite their near human eye placement, is that they are killers, concealing their cruel beak and murderous talons in attractive and downy plumage. Owls go back in history 60 million years and there are 133 living species. The Middle Ages was the great period for the English barn owl but the conditions of its habitat have so changed and man has turned himself into such a dread predator that it has become an endangered species.

Owls use their cries for mating purposes and for delineating hunting territory. They are also curious creatures. I have a silver owl whistle which I employ on summer evenings to carry out a dialogue with the neighbouring owl population. They never fail to respond verbally and from time to time one will turn up physically to see what is going on. In literature, *vide* Macbeth and Zuleika Dobson, owls are often harbingers of doom. The best *ecumenism* on owls appeared in *Punch* in 1875: A wise old owl sat on an oak. The more he saw the less he spoke. The less he spoke the more he heard. Why can't we all be like that wise old bird?

BARRY FANTONI



This one's tough. How many men does it take to find out who leaked Mrs Thatcher's letter?

A number of readers have written to me questioning my statement that the House of Lords is self-regulating. What, they ask, about the Lord Chancellor? What, indeed, is he commonly regarded as an upmarket version of Mr Speaker, but he is not that at all, and simply presides benevolently from the Woolsack and occasionally puts the question.

Members of the Upper House are not called on to speak. They either put down their names in advance for major debates or else take pot luck at question time and the committee stage. But what happens if two noble lords rise to their feet at the same time? One will give way to the other with old world courtesy, but if they fail to do so, then their lordships will let their minds be known beyond peradventure. They call out the name of the peer they want to hear — Canterbury or London as the case may be — and that's that.

Another contrast between the two Houses occurs at prayers. Commoners pray standing up, the nobility fall to their knees. I asked the former Lord Chancellor, Lord Hailsham, who has experience of both Houses, for the reason. He didn't hesitate: "We are more pious than they are."

I am glad to be able to add an ecumenical footnote to last week's re-launch of the D'Oyly Carte opera company, for whom I vainly tried to get a grant from the Arts Council when I was Arts Minister. I can reveal that it was Sir Hugh Womack who persuaded the late Dame David D'Oyly Carte to alter her will and to leave the company more than £1 million which was originally destined for another charity.

Now Lord Forte has weighed in. Some years ago he set up the Gilbert and Sullivan Trust with Dame Vera Lynn as chairman. This week he has handed over the trust and given the cash balance of £60,000 to the new D'Oyly Carte. If the two men can co-operate in such a good cause might they not come to an accord over more controversial matters? Or is that being too Gilbertian?

Last week's series of articles in *The Times*, "The hidden powers of the taxman", suggested that the Revenue is aggressively exceeding its powers. In reply, Anthony Battisill says the public has no cause to be alarmed.

The many accountants I meet in the course of the year greatly value, as I do, the good working relationships which exist between the accountancy profession and the department up and down the country.

Our tax system is based on consent. There must be mutual trust between taxpayer and tax gatherer. Inevitably difficulties and disputes arise in individual cases: it would be surprising if that were not so. No one likes paying tax, and those trying to evade their share do not like being found out and brought to book. But those cases are in a minority, and they take only a small part of inspectors' time.

The Taxpayers' Charter we have published sets out clearly the rights and obligations of taxpayers, and what they should do if they feel they have been unfairly treated. It rightly says: "You will be presumed to have dealt with your tax affairs honestly unless there is reason to believe otherwise."

We stand by that. So what about "the horror stories of

The Chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue defends the taxman

## Another side to the coin

dawn swoops by teams of black-coated men clutching Gladstone bags" mentioned by the accountants in the first article?

The Revenue is empowered to search premises and remove documents where there are reasonable grounds for suspecting a crime involving tax fraud. No other major country tries to tackle fraud without a power of this kind. But Parliament has circumscribed its use carefully. Every case is scrutinized personally by the board beforehand. We must then satisfy a circuit judge that our grounds for suspicion, and our need to search, are justified. And we must take care to conduct our search in a proper manner, with full regard for the taxpayer's rights.

But the ordinary, honest taxpayer has nothing to fear. In the last three years we have used this power of search only 11 times, and the board's power to require taxpayers to produce documents in only 25 cases.

I deplore the use of terms like "hit squads" which are offensive as well as inaccurate. Certainly

part of our job is to track down people operating in the black economy trying to escape tax. Most people I meet think we are right to do so. Why, they ask, should some people get away with it when the rest are paying their tax promptly and without argument?

Every year, the Inland Revenue accepts without inquiry the large majority of business accounts. Currently we investigate only some 2 per cent of self-employed businesses, and 1 per cent of companies, where something seems to be wrong and profits may be understated, whether intentionally or not. That is our job and I believe the public expects us to do it properly. But most businesses, which deal with their tax affairs properly, are never likely to be the subject of an Inland Revenue investigation.

Nor, despite the remarks by the accountants Jeremy Allan and David MacLean, do we have "cash collection targets imposed... by government". I do not know where this idea comes

from. It is emphatically not true. What is expected is that we try to collect the right tax efficiently and effectively. After all, we are spending taxpayers' money as well as collecting it.

Promotion within the Inland Revenue does not depend on how much tax someone brings in, but how he or she does the job in the round. We do have efficiency targets these days, for the amount of work to be got through, for the number of cases to be settled, for assessments to be made by a certain date, and so on. But we do not believe in setting out inspectors' cash targets in terms of tax.

Of course, inspectors bring in a lot of extra tax that would otherwise probably not have been paid. About £750 million came in last year from investigation work of various kinds from adjustments to business accounts. Raising that sum from taxpayers generally would mean an extra penny on the basic rate.

To be more cost effective the department has certainly had to change. We are better now at

identifying cases that need investigation, and we spend as little time as possible troubling taxpayers whose affairs are broadly in order. That is why the proportion of investigations giving rise to interest and penalties has gone up, although the total has declined. It is not because of any new hard line by inspectors. Nowadays innocent taxpayers are less likely to find their affairs under investigation. And it is not a black mark if an inspector finds that everything is in order, closes down an investigation and puts the papers away.

We sometimes make mistakes. What organization dealing with over 25 million people would not? I regret them, because they can cause anxiety and distress. We are doing all we can to eliminate them. There are still too many communication problems between inspectors and collectors. Here our new computer systems should help to improve things.

The independent committee under Lord Keith of Kinkell mentioned in the articles, which

looked into the powers of the Inland Revenue, described the broad approach of our inspectors on investigations as "reasonable and appropriate". And they concluded that "it is therefore necessary for the revenue gathering departments to have an adequately equipped armory of coercive powers to deal with the recalcitrant minority". They recommended that we should give more explanation to taxpayers under investigation. We have done so, and a new set of leaflets, available from tax offices, tells taxpayers about investigation and what they should do if they become involved.

The last article in the series posed a number of questions for the Inland Revenue. I have already answered most of them. We do sometimes ask taxpayers to prove their case, but that is because only they know the full facts about their circumstances.

We were asked why taxpayers fear that if they complain they will be "hounded" for years afterwards. The answer is that they need not, and I should like to hear from anyone who feels that he or she has been hounded. The board would certainly not countenance bullying of any taxpayer. Our staff are public servants. They are there to serve the public, and that is what they want to do. Most people I talk to think they are succeeding most of the time.

Christopher Walker

## His year of ruling dangerously

Mikhail Gorbachev, who last week quietly celebrated his 57th birthday, is fourth and most testing year in office. Unpredicted by even the most perceptive of Kremlin watchers, the anniversary is taking place amid the worst crisis of his leadership: the ethnic violence in Armenia and Azerbaijan which, in his own words, threatens to undo what has been achieved in the Soviet Union over the past 70 years.

Until last month, when hundreds of thousands of disaffected Armenians began marching on the central square of their capital, Yerevan, 1988 had been seen as a year that would be dominated by the Kremlin's economic reforms, which have now reached the crucial stage when lofty words are being replaced by often painful reality. But the emotions stirred by the tiny, Azerbaijan-ruled enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh and the bloodshed it has caused, have ensured that Gorbachev and the 18 other Politburo members have had to turn their sights to the nationalities problem. As he told a plenary session of the Communist Party Central Committee even before the rioting, it is now "the most fundamental, vital issue of our society".

Despite the creation of an array of committees that would do Whitehall proud, the Armenian-settlement deadline of March 26 for settlement is approaching without any sign that Gorbachev will be able to offer the republic what it wants. The feelings of its inhabitants, meanwhile, have been heightened by wild claims that they are facing a repetition of the 1915 massacre (at the hands of the Muslim Turks).

Gennady Gerasimov, the Kremlin spokesman now uncomfortably in charge of a sudden reversal of *glasnost*, told reporters seeking information: "You should look at Article 78 of the Soviet Constitution." To those familiar with the docu-

ment it was the broadest hint yet that the boundary changes being demanded by the Armenians will be resisted.

The article states: "The territory of a union republic may not be altered without its consent. The boundaries between union republics may be altered by mutual agreement of the republics concerned, subject to ratification by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics."

The Azerbaijanis, handed Nagorno-Karabakh in 1923, have made it clear in the starkest possible fashion that they are not now prepared to hand it back to Armenia (whose connection with it goes back to AD 1) without a struggle. In fact they have launched a systematic campaign of telephone threats designed to force the Armenian majority of the mountainous region to flee.

"It was a problem that Gorbachev needed like a hole in the head," a European diplomat said. "At the very moment when his reforms were meeting their stiffest resistance, along came this uprising, which his opponents have blamed on liberalization and *glasnost*. It will have had the dangerous result of uniting his enemies."

These had already begun to gather strength because of the streamlining which has cut the staff of government ministries by 50 per cent, much reduced take-home pay in many enterprises where shoddy goods have not reached new quality limits, and provoked rumours that peppercorn Soviet rents (about £12 a month for the average family flat) will rise.



"It is vexing... and unpleasant when workers receive less. But how can we pay full money if it is not earned?" Gorbachev told workers at a Moscow factory last week. "And all because previously things worked according to the principle: whether you turned out the goods or not, of good quality or bad, you still got the money. And what was the result? Resources were used up, labour was expended, money paid out and there were no goods. Is this the way to live? Of course not."

Another Muscovite, an office worker in his 30s with a wife and child, put it differently: "The Soviet papers are full of perestroika (restructuring), television is full of perestroika, but we know that so far it means very little. People joke about it, but in their hearts I do not believe they think it will ever work."

Despite the confident tone of his conclusion there are still many millions of Soviet citizens — their ambitions worn low by the lies and overblown bureaucracy which has been the legacy of Stalinism — who, if given the choice, would settle for the easy life in which the party takes all the decisions and they rub along without any need for exertion. In such a world, unemployment, which now appears as a real possibility, would not exist.

One of them told me, with an openness of which Gorbachev would have approved, but voicing sentiments which he would not: "There is a lot of talk about change. But for us the only changes have been for the worse. Many people feel that their jobs are threatened, and their standard of living appears likely to go down, while in the shops it is still the same: *nichevo* (nothing)."

Another Muscovite, an office worker in his 30s with a wife and child, put it differently: "The Soviet papers are full of perestroika (restructuring), television is full of perestroika, but we know that so far it means very little. People joke about it, but in their hearts I do not believe they think it will ever work."

Gorbachev — luckily for his supporters — is one of those politicians who thrive on problems and whose energy is in no way diminished by difficulties. "We have inherited a good deal of what cannot be got rid of at once. But we are not falling into panic or euphoria. We have taken principled decisions on restructuring," he told the Austrian Communist Party leader,

Franz Mubri, during a Kremlin meeting a few days ago.

With 60 per cent of all Soviet enterprises obliged since January to organize on a self-financing basis, Gorbachev is now known to be looking to June 28 as the key date to push forward his reform programme and to overcome the bureaucratic resistance that has proved even stiffer than expected. That day will see the opening in Moscow of the 19th All Union Communist Party Conference, the first for 47 years and one which the reformers — badly bruised since the sacking of Boris Yeltsin as Moscow Communist Party leader — hope will enable Gorbachev to chop away the dead wood within the Central Committee, which makes policy at its twice yearly meetings. Many of its 307 members are still left-overs from the Brezhnev era, now officially described as "the period of stagnation".

The reformers, who (like Western Kremlinologists) are now busy hunting through the history books for precedents, note that two previous party conferences, in 1912 and 1917, elected wholly new central committees and that three, in 1912, 1919 and 1922, drafted new rules governing the party.

Selection of the 5,000 delegates begins next month and the media are already devoting space to putting over the message that it will be a make-or-break trial for the reform drive. The rumour-mongers have hinted that the reactionaries may try to use it as an occasion to overthrow Gorbachev.

Because of the umbilical connection between domestic and foreign policies, his position at the conference will be greatly strengthened if he can boast a successful Moscow summit with President Reagan, scheduled a few weeks before. Among the Soviet people, it will be stronger still if by then the first troops have begun taking the dusty road home from Afghanistan.

Commentary • ROBERT KILROY-SILK

## Licensed to kill?

The full details of how the three unnamed members of an IRA active service unit, Mairead Farrell, Daniel McCann and Sean Savage, were shot dead in the streets of Gibraltar last Sunday by members of the British security services will probably not be known for some time, if ever.

But what we do already know about the incident should prompt some worried but direct questions about the operation by those who acknowledge the need for our police and Armed Services to be strictly controlled and disciplined and, above all, subject to the rule of law. That has not happened.

Yet we know that the terrorists were unarmed. We know that they were shot dead. We know that no one has been arrested, detained, or even named as the killer.

We are told by the Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, that the terrorists "made movements which led the military personnel operating in support of the Gibraltar police to conclude that their own lives and the lives of others were under threat. In the light of this response," he explained, "they were shot dead."

Is this absolutely accurate? Were the terrorists challenged, warned and ordered to surrender? Did the "military personnel" indicate that they would shoot if their orders were not heeded? Did the "military personnel" comply with the guidelines laid down for the police in Britain when using weapons in public places? These are important questions which cannot be avoided merely

because those killed were terrorists. The questions cannot be evaded because of a natural and justified sense of relief that, had their bomb been detonated, hundreds of soldiers and civilians might have been killed or maimed. Nor is the killing of the bombers vindicated, or justified as some now pretend to believe, by the fact that the bomb has been discovered. That is irrelevant to the manner of their deaths.

These questions are important, not out of any concern for terrorists. They are crucial because we have certain standards of civilized behaviour to maintain. We don't have a policy of "shoot-to-kill" — or at least no government has been prepared to admit as much, and no Parliament has sanctioned one.

We do not give licences to kill to anyone, not even to the most esteemed members of the SAS. Neither, they, nor anyone else, not even a triumphant Prime Minister, has been given the authority to act as judge and jury and public executioner. We have not determined, yet, that anyone is above the law.

Above all you would expect to see these anxieties expressed in the House of Commons. This country, after all, is the mother of parliaments, and Westminster is renowned for its defence of minority and civil rights. These are reasonable and legitimate questions to expect of the Opposition, at least.

Instead, the chief Opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, the normally sensible and reasonable George Robertson, appeared more anxious to join in

the back-slapping of the Services and the Government than to discover the truth. Terrorists, he said, "must be dealt with", as if that justified peremptory killing, and he talked of the need for us not to be "squeamish".

Only Eric Heffer sought to raise a few queries. Only he had either the courage or the intelligence to voice the anxieties that any decent democrat must have had running off the tip of his tongue. It comes to something when we cannot rely on a single government backbencher — when we cannot depend even on Her Majesty's Opposition — to ask the obvious and necessary questions, and to hold the Government to account.

It really is a sorry state of affairs in which we have got ourselves when the best man at the party is Eric Heffer. It doesn't say a lot for the reputation of Parliament, the credibility of the Opposition or the courage of backbenchers of all parties.

Those normally assiduous in upholding the sanctity of the rule of law when it relates to striking miners and left-wing demonstrators seem able to dispense with the legal niceties on this occasion.

That won't do. That makes us no better than the terrorists themselves. Indeed, it makes us worse. Whatever the IRA is, and I have no time for its policies, its nasty methods or its evil personnel, it isn't hypocritical. We are in danger, not only of being perceived to have double standards, but also of having a flexible attitude to the rule of law. That is the quickest way to authoritarianism.

SCIENCE REPORT

## Chinese takeaway

Washington  
Thanks to the Chinese government, Western scientists are about to be given free access to the largest mass of information on diet and disease ever collected. This has emerged from evidence recently given to a congressional committee by T. Colin Campbell, professor of nutrition at Cornell University.

For five years, teams of Chinese researchers have been collecting information from 6,500 people living in 130 villages selected to cover areas with different incidences of disease, different ways of life and different local foods. The researchers analysed what the villagers ate, recorded details of their life histories and took blood and urine samples.

The samples were sent to the world's best analytical laboratories so that measurements could be made of hormones, vitamins, minerals and cholesterol levels, of antibodies to viruses, and of many other factors that give clues to health and disease.

Altogether 350 categories of information were recorded. That, multiplied by the number of people surveyed, and given the huge variations in diet and disease from village to village, provides a massive data base ready to be mined. Plans are already being made for decades of further surveys.

China is perhaps the only country where the links between diet and disease may be unravelled. Rural Chinese

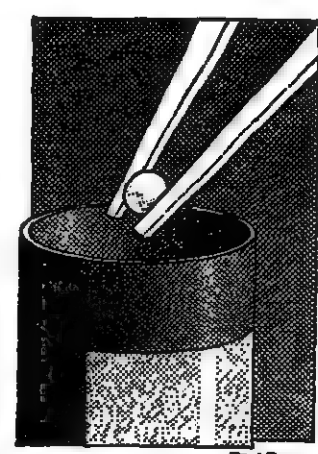


Photo: Bryan

large-scale surveys which, if carried out in the West, would be very costly.

The Chinese data are now being compiled by Richard Peto of Oxford University, who collaborated with the Chinese from the start. But some 9,000 of the results came from Campbell, who described the survey to a congressional committee in Washington which is seeking advice to clarify "the confusion spawned by the proliferation of dietary advice".

Campbell attributes part of the confusion to research that has been narrowly focused on single causes. The Chinese study will look at the overall pattern of diet and lifestyle. Some 9,000 significant associations between disease, mortality rates and diet have already been detected, he says.

Some associations will be found spurious but others may reveal new links between diet and disease once the data are thrown open for investigation by researchers throughout the world.

One surprise revealed from the preliminary analysis is that Chinese people take in some 20 per cent more calories than Americans. But there is very little obesity among the Chinese, showing that a high-calorie diet need not cause excess weight. Different levels of exercise may provide part of the explanation. But other factors are waiting to be found.

ALUN ANDERSON

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1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481 4100

## TESTS FOR THE TESTERS

Whether or not the reported clash between the Prime Minister and Mr Kenneth Baker over school testing is the baloney Mr Baker says it is, the leaked letter that prompted the reports raises issues which are fundamental to the Government's whole programme of education reforms. That the letter was leaked to the Opposition at all suggests that someone, somewhere, is intent on muddying the waters, if not undermining the whole scheme.

The reforms will stand or fall by the precision with which parents and others are able to measure what pupils, teachers and schools are achieving in relation to the proposed national curriculum. The tests will have failed if they do not allow those outside the classrooms to judge the effectiveness of the work going on inside them. They will have failed also if they do not set teachers and pupils of all abilities challenging and realistic targets.

To meet these requirements, the tests must set objective standards of attainment related to the ages of seven, 11, 14 and 16 at which pupils will take them. The results, in aggregated form, must be capable of being published and allow comparisons to be made between classes, schools and local education authorities.

That is what Mrs Thatcher wants. It is also what Mr Baker wants. It happens to be precisely what Professor Paul Black and his colleagues proposed in the report they published two months ago to (until now) eerily universal acclaim. And there's the rub. In the present climate, any education proposals that are greeted with equal enthusiasm by the Government, the Labour Party and the National Union of Teachers must be, at the very least, capable of divergent readings.

Mr Baker, as he admitted yesterday, was almost overcome with relief to find a group of education specialists prepared, contrary to the inherited wisdom of their kind, to countenance written, age-related tests and the compilation of league tables. The National Union of Teachers and their friends in the Labour Party became quite misty-eyed at Professor Black's

suggestion that the written tests should be supplemented by teachers' assessments and that the results should be used to diagnose what help pupils needed.

Their vision clouded, perhaps, with so much emotion, neither side was seeing too clearly. This is rarely a fault of the Prime Minister's. She complains, with justification, that the way Professor Black proposes to achieve his ends is too complex and costly — an objection Mr Baker now says he shares. She also dislikes the heavy reliance on the involvement of teachers and local education authorities in testing. The possibility that personal likes and dislikes will affect the assessment of pupils is always a danger when teachers administer tests in the classes they teach. Given that the tests are supposed to measure the performance of teachers and local authorities too, their concern is understandable. It is not hard to see how their traditional hostility to any such idea could lead to issues being fudged, if not to outright sabotage.

The problem, as Mr Baker and Professor Black have seen it, is how to drag the education establishment in the direction they want to go. The proposals are elaborate because they are designed to reassure everyone. Mrs Thatcher, probably correctly, believes that ambition to be doomed. Her bitter experience at the Department of Education and Science between 1970 and 1974 taught her that the juggernaut never actually changes direction. She also believes it is driven by quibbling with left-wing sympathies — a suspicion that will be confirmed if the leak of her private secretary's letter is shown to have emanated from the department's headquarters at Elizabeth House.

Wherever it came from, the leak effectively ends an unlikely honeymoon that was never to the Prime Minister's taste. Professor Black's scheme will have to be simplified and the Labour Party and the teachers will not like that at all. But Mr Baker must be used to their opposition by now and should be prepared to override it.

## AUSTRIA LOOKS BACK

Fifty years ago today, Nazi columns with Hitler at their head marched into neighbouring Austria to unite the German peoples for one brief tragic period in their history. This was never going to be a happy birthday; more a time for grim analysis than celebration. But the way in which attention has been refocused on Austria and its President during the last 12 months, has made it a particularly embarrassing moment for Vienna.

Whereas the West Germans have clearly done penance for their Nazi past, the Austrians, it is said, do not even comprehend that they have anything to regret. Instead, they have pretended their Nazi phase did not happen, and not only elected Dr Waldheim in the face of searching questions about his past, but — in many cases — have defended their choice of President ever since.

Yet Hitler was born an Austrian. Austrians as well as Germans guarded the concentration camps. Above all, there is a common perception that their country may have escaped too lightly at the end of the war — when it was accepted as a victim, rather than an accomplice, of Nazi Germany. The land of the *Sound of Music* is also remembered as that in which crowds gathered to welcome Hitler's invading army half a century ago.

Austrians to some extent have a right to feel hard done by. This reading of history for instance, fails to acknowledge the character of the time. Nobody can understand that period who does not also recognize the extent to which thinking was dominated by the fear of Leninist Bolshevism and the international revolution. Now, even the Russians are being brought to acknowledge the extent of Stalin's terror. Only Austria, it seems, is loath to look back.

Yet when Austria was invaded, those Austrians who hated the end of their independence greatly outnumbered those people in the West who seriously objected on grounds of principle. Ominous though the

Anschluss was, there were many people in the democracies who said that the Austrians were, after all, Germans with at least as much in common with their neighbours the Bavarians, as the Bavarians had with the North Germans.

It is clear now, as it was then, that there was nothing the western democracies could do to prevent the Anschluss and nothing the Austrians could do to save themselves. Of course, the Nazi bacillus had already spread to many and the instinct for self-preservation spread it further once the Anschluss was a fact. To many more who were not Nazis in the worst sense the idea of One Germany was compensation for the collapse of the Hapsburg Empire.

There were also bad people who were willing to serve in the SS and in concentration camps and there was a traditional element of anti-Jewish feeling, especially in Vienna. But this was true of other parts of Central Europe as well. There were Lithuanians and Ukrainians willing to serve Hitler; sometimes for the worst of reasons, sometimes out of understandable hatred for Stalin. There were many Poles and others who were anti-semitic. Much evil was unleashed and few altogether escaped it. It will become the rest of the world to shrug off its own past by placing a magnifying glass over Austria.

Austria, however, would do well to reach for one itself. While it is an ancient and highly civilized country which has enriched European culture for many centuries, the Waldheim affair — 50 years after the Anschluss — reflects a tarnished image of the Austrian nation. It is regrettable that the darker side of its history should be recalled now. It must seem especially sad for the new generation of Austrians who belong to the very different postwar world. But this poignant anniversary, and the embarrassment which surrounds it, is an appropriate time for Austria to renounce its Nazi past — and those who played prominent parts in it.

## SUTHERLAND'S LAW

Mr Peter Sutherland, the European Commission's energetic Irish competition commissioner, has made his presence felt by securing tougher conditions for British Airways' takeover of British Caledonian than those agreed by the Monopolies Commission and Lord Young. In doing so, he has scored a point over Britain's national merger regulators and shown that interference from Brussels can sometimes help British consumers.

British Airways initially dismissed the Brussels intervention after it had agreed with the Monopolies Commission to mitigate the anti-competitive effects of the merger. So did most domestic commentators. Mr Sutherland very quickly changed their minds.

Brussels has pinpointed the same issues as the Monopolies Commission, but has built on the original domestic compromise. As a result, British Airways has been obliged to give more specific commitments — for instance, on reducing its share of traffic movements at Gatwick — which should ensure opportunities for smaller airlines on European routes.

The European Commission has been trying to open up competition in European air travel for years and break down the old cartel of national monopolies. The modest liberalization finally agreed by member governments last year owed much to its efforts. That agreement gave Mr Sutherland good reason to intervene in the BA/B-Cal merger. He could, however, only do so after the event.

The commissioner has rediscovered the strong executive powers established under Articles 85 and 86 of the Treaty of Rome which cover restraint of competition and abuse of a dominant market position. They were reinforced by a decision of the European Court last November, that permitted him to set

conditions for mergers with potentially anti-competitive effects in the European market. He is now attempting, 14 years after the first Brussels proposal, to establish a regime for vetting in advance the largest mergers involving business in more than one Community country.

The new draft EEC merger policy sent to member governments earlier this month severely limits the number of mergers which would fall under vetting from Brussels. It also offers speedier decision-making in response to earlier objections (from Britain among others) to the prospect of a duplication of bureaucracy. At the same time, Mr Sutherland has made it clear that if trade ministers do not rapidly agree to an EEC-wide merger policy, there is scope for more extensive use of the blunter weapons at his disposal.

Lord Young's latest proposals for domestic control of cartels and restrictive practices are designed to fit in with the powerful regime under the Treaty of Rome. But his recent merger policy statement does not take account of the EEC dimension. The Department of Trade and Industry is reserving its position, even in principle, and has yet to give Mr Sutherland's proposal a high priority.

This looks inconsistent for a department anxious to make British industry aware of what difference the impending single European market will make. It implies a common policy for vetting the effects on competition of mergers of businesses operating outside national markets. A common policy would not just restrict mergers further. It would also stop the nationalistic vetoes on cross-border deals which many member states impose. Britain, which is fairly open to foreign control of domestic companies, should welcome that.

## Paying price of failure to invest

*From Sir Geoffrey Chandler*  
Sir, The debate on next week's Budget has been conducted almost exclusively in terms of reduced taxation or increased expenditure on the National Health Service. Yet the money available to the Chancellor arises in significant degree from the fact that as a country we have spent less than our competitors, both corporately and nationally, on education at all levels, on training, both of shopfloor and management, and on non-defence research and development, all fundamental to industrial competitiveness. We resemble a company rich in cash through having skimped on investment and training.

In 1992 these deficits, unless remedied, will be exposed to the full force of competition from within the European Community. Even with hugely accelerated programmes we will need to be lucky as well as skilful if we are to be able to compete on equal terms.

To look to Government alone to remedy these deficiencies would be naive; to absolve Government from any responsibility equally so. A Budget which does nothing to encourage a significantly greater investment in the human resources of the country will assist in guaranteeing a continuation of our competitive inferiority.

The final verdict on what the Chancellor does or does not do on March 15 will only come when it is too late to remedy if he gets it wrong.

Yours faithfully,  
GEOFFREY CHANDLER,  
46 Hyde Vale,  
Greenwich, SE10.  
March 8.

## Tax returns

*From Mr H. H. Leedale*  
Sir, Your series on the power of the taxman (Spectrum, February 29-March 4) makes me more than ever glad that I have long since retired from the Inland Revenue Department of which I was proud to be a member for over 40 years.

In my early days we were taught always to treat taxpayers and their agents with courtesy; my first divisional chief would send us memoranda on drafting, a few doggerel words of which stay in my memory after 55 years: And will they please remember too. Words like forthwith are still taboo. A gentle "now" slipped in between. Will say as clearly what we mean.

Some of the tactics of today's Revenue men are in reaction against those of an increasing minority of the people they have to deal with. Knowing when to remove the kid gloves comes with experience and good training and the haemorrhage of staff inevitably leads to bad decisions and the loss of public good will. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
H. H. LEEDALE,  
Lavender Cottage,  
Yew Tree Lane,  
Rotherfield,  
Crowthorne, East Sussex.  
February 4.

*From Lieutenant-Colonel G. D. P. Young*

Sir, Any foreigner reading your recent articles would have come to the conclusion that all tax inspectors are bloodsuckers doing their best to squeeze the last penny from the hapless taxpayer.

This really is not so. As a general commissioner of taxes and a worker for the Citizens' Advice Bureau specialising in tax problems for our clients, my own experience is that inspectors are helpful and courteous. They have a difficult and thankless task to do requiring perception and tact which they show, sometimes even with humour.

My only complaint is the long time it often takes to get a reply to a letter, but this, I understand, is due to shortage of staff and overwork.

Yours faithfully,  
G. D. P. YOUNG,  
Box Lane,  
Minchinhampton,  
Stroud, Gloucestershire.

## Victims in Romania

*From Professor Norman Stone*  
Sir, The situation in Romania continues to cause concern. Father Imre Tempfli, a Roman Catholic priest, has not been seen or heard of since last December, shortly before he had been seriously injured after a car without number plates approached him at speed. It is feared that he may have suffered the same fate as Father Jerzy Popieluszko, and have been murdered.

There is also concern over Dan Petrescu, a writer who recently gave an interview to the French magazine, *Libération*, which was highly critical of the Ceausescu regime. A vicious attack upon him followed in the Romanian magazine, *Contemporanul* of February 26. Such attacks are usually a prelude to further arrest and imprisonment, at the least.

Newspapers in the West have been quick to respond to the fate of those who have challenged the authorities in Eastern European countries, especially Poland and Czechoslovakia. Romania, so creatively and oppressively run, nevertheless contains people of great courage, who deserve from us the same kind of attention as they make their stand against this appalling regime.

Yours,  
N. STONE,  
Worcester College, Oxford.  
March 7.

## Three violent deaths in Gibraltar

*From Dr Julia Hebdon*  
Sir, I seem to be almost alone in feeling both repugnance at the summary execution of those three Irish terrorists in Gibraltar, and deep dismay at the almost unanimous approval of this action.

I am frequently shaken with rage at the barbarous methods of the IRA, and I am sure our police and Army feel the same; but I am a member, and they the guardians, of a supposedly civilized society whose laws are not those of the jungle nor of the terrorist. Of course we are fighting terrorism with one hand tied behind our backs — tied by our sense of justice and human dignity — but that is the price we must pay if we are to have a society worth preserving against terrorism.

There should be a thorough inquiry to find out why these criminals could not have been disabled rather than killed. Slaughter, perpetrated or plotted, by our enemies cannot excuse slaughter by ourselves.

These events in Gibraltar — even more so — public approval of them have taken this society, and all its members, a step towards the moral barbarism that we are supposedly fighting. Yours faithfully,  
JULIA HEBDON,  
47 Windsor Road,  
Arundel Park,  
Chichester, West Sussex.

*From Miss Gillaine Dellipiani*  
Sir, As a Gibraltar student in the United Kingdom I was both shocked and distressed to learn of the intended IRA terrorist attack on Gibraltar. It is difficult for me to express my anger and outrage at the events which took place this past weekend. I would like to congratulate the British, Gibraltar and Spanish authorities in the effective prevention of this cowardly assault.

Although it is indeed regrettable that the IRA squad were unarmed,

the three terrorists knew the dangers and it was their choice to expose themselves. But were any of the victims of previous IRA attacks given this choice? Were those at Enniskillen, would the people of Gibraltar and the residents of the island have been allowed to choose their fate?

I am therefore outraged by the Irish Government's call for an official inquiry. Whether these terrorists were armed or unarmed is not the issue; the main point is that a cowardly and vicious attack was prevented.

Finally, I would like to applaud the attitude of the people of Gibraltar at today's changing of the guard ceremony. Although not used to the fear they have been subjected to, more Gibraltarians than ever turned out to watch today's ceremony. I join my people in their stand against those who seek to massacre and bomb and terrorize in order to achieve their own ends.

I remain, yours sincerely,  
G. DELLIPIANI,  
66 Auckland Avenue,  
Hull, Humberside.  
March 8.

*From Mrs Monica Wilson*  
Sir, The Government's logic would appear to be faulty. The explosion of a bomb during the changing of the guard in Gibraltar was not averted by the death of the three IRA terrorists. It would not have exploded if the three people had merely been arrested, because the plot had already been uncovered.

Furthermore, the reaction of unarmed men to their pursuit by men with weapons is surely either to freeze or to run as fast as they can. They do not make threatening gestures which they are unable to back up with any action. Yours faithfully,  
MONICA WILSON,  
6 Garway Road, W2.

## Copyright anomalies

*From Mr Philip J. Circus*  
Sir, The Copyright, Designs and Patents Bill is proving a major headache for the Government, not least because some of its provisions will result in greater unfairness.

Nowhere is this more obvious than in relation to the Government's wish to do away with the current provision in section 4 of the 1936 Copyright Act by which the commissioner of photographs, portraits and engravings is the first owner of the copyright therein. The Government's only justification for doing away with this provision is that it is anomalous *vis à vis* other commissioned work.

The removal of this anomaly has implications not just for the advertising industry, but for every person in the land who commissions photography — weddings, babies, family portraits, graduations; the list is endless. As the Bill currently stands, it is the photographer who will be the automatic owner of the copyright and he will be entitled to use those photographs in any way that he chooses, including ways which may well be

to the prejudice of the original commissioner.

On February 23, during the report stage in the Lords, the Government promised to consider a further amendment to the Bill which would require the "private" commissioner of photography to have to give his consent to any further use by the photographer. This would mean that the wheel had come full circle and one anomaly had been replaced by another. But worse still, why should commercial commissioners be so unfairly treated, particularly when the latter may well have had a significant creative input into the resulting work?

The answer is to give commissioners, whether private or commercial, the copyright in commissioned photography. And if the Government is still concerned about anomalies this principle should be extended to all work that is commissioned and not just photography.

Yours faithfully,  
PHILIP CIRCUS,  
(Director for Legal Affairs),  
Institute of Practitioners in Advertising,  
44 Belgrave Square, SW1.  
March 2.

## Hospital closures

*From Lady Rees-Mogg*  
Sir, Before the Secretary of State, Mr John Moore, makes any decisions about the future of the Westminster Hospital it might be prudent for him to ask for some relevant figures.

What was the projected cost of building St George's Hospital, Tooting, the Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead, and the Charing Cross Hospital, Fulham, and what was the actual final cost?

## Polytechnic rumpus

*From the Director of the Polytechnic, Wolverhampton*  
Sir, Much of Mr Levin's article entitled "An academic fascist's nest" (February 29), based on a single recent incident in this polytechnic, is strongly to be commended. He does, however, exaggerate greatly the extent to which the issue has dominated the polytechnic and the effect which small, even though vociferous, minorities have upon a large and diverse institution such as this.

He is correct in his assessment that the polytechnic did everything within the limited powers available to ensure that a forum for the expression of views, however controversial, was available, and that the security arrangements surrounding the event were as comprehensive as possible. Given the sensitivity attaching to race issues in the multicultural community we serve, we could have banned the meeting. But the principle of freedom of expression is too important.

However, Mr Levin does little to promote the case for more useful legislation by his use of such emotive language. His assumption that the campus is rife with "fascist" does a grave disservice to the polytechnic and its students — the vast majority being responsible, law-abiding citizens, part-time as well as full-time students, mature post-experience adults as well as the formerly typical 18-plus students. By his choice of language he fosters the exaggerated sense of self-importance of the minority groups who flout the laws of the land.

Yours faithfully,  
M. J. HARRISON, Director,  
The Polytechnic Wolverhampton,  
Wulfruna Street,  
Wolverhampton, West Midlands.  
March 1.

What were the projected savings to be made at each of these hospitals and what were the actual savings?

What was the projected annual cost of running St George's, the Royal Free and the Charing Cross Hospitals and what are currently the annual running costs of these establishments?

All the estimates on which the current proposals for the new Westminster/Chelsea Hospital are based are likely to prove as widely mistaken as similar estimates in the past.

Yours faithfully,  
GILLIAN REES-MOGG,  
3 Smith Square,  
Westminster, SW1.  
March 2.

## Tablets of stone

*From Mr C. A. Whittington-Smith*  
Sir, The article on lapidary phrases (March 2) and Mr H. L. Alexander's letter (March 5) bring to mind the tombstone in a churchyard not far from which bears the simple inscription: "Cheerio, till we meet again." Is some slight doubt permissible in interpreting this? Yours faithfully,  
C. A. WHITTINGTON-SMITH,  
Grendon, Hydro Close,  
Bakewell, Derbyshire.  
March 7.

*From Mr Stewart Fairlie*  
Sir, A real zest for living is expressed in a headline in Clachan Duich burial ground in south-west Ross-shire. After the deceased's name and lifespan is the inscription, "And I enjoyed every minute of it". Yours faithfully,  
STEWART FAIRLIE,  
27 Erskine Street,  
Aberdeen.  
March 7.

*From Dr Patrick McGrath*  
Sir, In a graveyard in Co. Kerry there lies a stone, on which is inscribed: This stone was raised by Sarah's lord. For these are known to all the town to keep her down.

I am, Sir, etc,  
PATRICK G. McGRATH,  
18 Heathermount Drive,  
Crowthorne, Berkshire.  
March 5.

## Harking back to 1688

*From the Earl of Perth*  
Sir, Re Lord St John of Fawsley's Diary column (March 4) is it too late to reconsider the celebrations planned to commemorate the "Glorious Revolution" — neither "glorious" nor a "revolution" but so called by the Irish and Welsh sequestrators of the persecution of Catholic and other religious minorities for 150 years and the end of Scottish independence — are still with us.

Crown, Government and both Houses of Parliament are invited to celebrate — so will the Orangemen and the National Front. The organisers now plead it is to commemorate our subsequent relations with the Dutch — a specious pretext.

Bloodshed lies ahead and the revival of old hatreds is the best hope for. As a Catholic and a Scot I shall take no part. Are others of like mind, and could not the tercentenary trustees turn their energy and enthusiasm to charitable purposes? Yours truly,  
PERTH,  
House of Lords.  
March 6.



## ON THIS DAY

MARCH 11 1948

Steady communist infiltration into key departments of the Czechoslovak state paved the way for a communist takeover (with Soviet backing) in February, 1948. Jan Masaryk (1886-1948), the Foreign Minister, widely respected in the West, became increasingly gloomy about his prospects and those of his country. None the less, by no means everyone believed that he died by his own hand.

## JAN MASARYK'S SUICIDE IN PRAGUE

It was announced in Prague yesterday that a State funeral would be given to Mr. Jan Masaryk, the Foreign Minister of Czechoslovakia, who had committed suicide by jumping from the window of his apartment in the Foreign Office...

PRAGUE, March 10  
A deep shadow has been cast over the whole country by the news of the suicide of Mr. Jan Masaryk, the Foreign Minister.

President Benes was informed this morning by Mr. Nosek, the Minister of the Interior, and Dr. Clementis, the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, who made a special journey to the President's country home to tell him. Mrs. Benes immediately came to Prague to see Dr. Allos Masaryk, Jan Masaryk's sister. The relations between the two families have been so close, extending over the whole period since Thomas Masaryk and Dr. Benes worked side by side to create the Czechoslovak State during the first world war, that the news, coming at such a time, has been especially poignant. It is not surprising that Dr. Benes has so far refrained from giving public expression to his grief. Jan Masaryk was the one man in the present Cabinet on whose support Dr. Benes could have always relied.

This afternoon the Cabinet held a special meeting at which it was decided that Masaryk should receive a State funeral. It is understood that he will be buried in the family grave at Laný.

According to an official announcement he was found dead under the window of his official apartment. This morning, and it was added that the probable cause of his action was "illness and insomnia". Mr. Nosek, in his speech to the National Assembly this afternoon, said that a number of telegrams from England and America had been found on Masaryk's room, reproaching him for the part he had played in recent events. "For my own part," Mr. Nosek went on, "I consider his attitude was very manly and heroic. His depression in the early hours of this morning must have been very great, and recriminations from the west must have increased it."

According to the official account Masaryk had shown no signs of mental depression on the previous evening, but on the contrary had displayed his usual optimism. Those who saw him at the weekend, however, were shocked at his appearance. Sunday was the 98th anniversary of his father's birth, and the date was celebrated as usual with public meetings and speeches, but the President-liberator's son took no part in them this year. Had he done so he would have heard General Svoboda, the Minister of Defence, acclaim Thomas Masaryk as one who would have approved the regime to which he himself (Jan Masaryk) adhered for a short while, only to dissociate himself from it within two weeks in a manner which leaves no possible doubt of his attitude towards it...







# BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

It is a good idea to give thanks to the Lord, and to say prayers until the time of the most High.

Psalm 92:1

## BIRTHS

**ANFORD** - On February 27th, at UCH to Carolyn (nee Hughes) and John, a daughter, Rosie Elaine Cressall.

**BRENNER** - On March 10th, to Mary (nee Cammisa) and Graham, a son, Thomas.

**CHAMBERS** - On March 8th, to Anne and John, a son, James.

**COX** - On March 10th, to Cyprus and David, a daughter, Anne and Christopher.

**DANWY** - On March 6th, to Carolyn and Rupert, at Winchester, a son, Thomas.

**EDMONDS** - On March 2nd 1988, to Rose (nee Williams) and David, a son, Peter David.

**HILL** - On February 27th, at Mt. Alvernia, Chalfont to Fiona (nee Drummond) and Michael, a daughter, Abigail Louise Graham, a sister for Lucinda.

**HOBSON** - On March 6th, to Gill and John, a daughter, Emily.

**JACOB** - On March 9th, at St Thomas's Hospital, to Fanny (nee Ash) and John, a daughter, Emily.

**JOHNSON** - On March 7th, at St George's Hospital, to Judith (nee Alexander) and Frederick, a son, Alexander Frederick.

**LAKE** - On March 7th, to Sally and Christopher, a son, Andrew Peter Geoffrey, a brother for Nicola.

**NALSON** - On March 7th, at Essex District Hospital, to Vivien (nee Pitt) and John, a daughter, Victoria Louise, a sister for Alexandra.

**PERCIVAL** - On March 8th, to Judith and John, a daughter, Olivia Charlotte.

**ROPER** - On March 9th, in Hong Kong, to Mary (nee Reynolds) and Simon, a son, Alexander.

**SHERIDAN** - On March 3rd 1988, in Surrey to Helen and Brendan, a son, Eamon.

**SPYROU** - On March 8th, at Queen Charlotte's, London, to Maria (nee Vassiliou) and Andrew, a son, Andrew Alexander, a brother for David.

**TOLLER** - On February 29th, in London, to Margaret and David, a daughter, Anna Susan.

**THOMAS** - On March 8th 1988, in Oxford, to Helen (nee Tunstall) and David, a son, Alexander.

**TODRICK** - On March 2nd 1988, at the Simpson Memorial Maternity Hospital, Edinburgh, to Nanny and Alex, a son.

**WOLTERS** - On Friday 26th February 1988, at Queen Charlotte's, London, to Anne (nee Adams) and John, a son, Alexander Martin.

## MARRIAGES

**LAMBRECHT** - On February 26th in London, to Mrs J. Lamb of Chorley, Lancashire and the late Mrs D. Lamb of Pooleton, Southampton.

**WILSON** - On March 5th at Lancaster Victoria Theatre, to Mrs D. Wilson of Durham, to Andrew John, son of Mr J. Wilson and Mrs J. Anderson of Durham.

## DEATHS

**ATHANSON** - On March 9th, 1988, Ernest George Bartholomew, 80, of Derbyshire Royal Infirmary, aged 80. Beloved husband of Jill, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Bartholomew, and George and grandchild of Mrs. A. Bartholomew. Buried at St. Andrew's Church, Derbyshire, on 10th March.

**AYERS** - On March 2nd, 1988, at home, to Mrs J. Ayers, 85, wife of the late Mr J. Ayers. Buried at St. Andrew's Church, Derbyshire, on 3rd March.

**CAHILL** - On March 8th, 1988, at home, to Mrs J. Cahill, 85, wife of the late Mr J. Cahill. Buried at St. Andrew's Church, Derbyshire, on 9th March.

**CELESTE** - On March 8th, 1988, at home, to Mrs J. Celeste, 85, wife of the late Mr J. Celeste. Buried at St. Andrew's Church, Derbyshire, on 9th March.

**DEWAR** - On March 6th, 1988, at home, to Mrs J. Dewar, 85, wife of the late Mr J. Dewar. Buried at St. Andrew's Church, Derbyshire, on 7th March.

**HEWES** - On March 6th, 1988, at home, to Mrs J. Hewes, 85, wife of the late Mr J. Hewes. Buried at St. Andrew's Church, Derbyshire, on 7th March.

**HOARE** - On March 8th, 1988, at home, to Mrs J. Hoare, 85, wife of the late Mr J. Hoare. Buried at St. Andrew's Church, Derbyshire, on 9th March.

**HOPE** - On March 8th, 1988, at home, to Mrs J. Hope, 85, wife of the late Mr J. Hope. Buried at St. Andrew's Church, Derbyshire, on 9th March.

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**ROSE** - Mrs. Rose and Peter wish to express their sincere thanks to all those who have helped them in their time of need. Special thanks to the Rev. Canon J. Rose, who has been a great comfort to them.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**1841 was a Very Good Year indeed for Britain because;**

**POST OFFICE STAMPS**

**ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS**

**THOMAS COOK**

**Ann Bird, 41 Rydal Way, South Ruislip, HA4 0RX.**

**ATTRACTIVE**

**ROWLANDS**

**SELLERS**

**FORWARD**

**ROPER**

**SHERIDAN**

**SPYROU**

**TOLLER**

**THOMAS**

**TODRICK**

**WOLTERS**

**LAKE**

**PERCIVAL**

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## FOR SALE

**THE PLANO WORKSHOP**

**LANDLORDS**

**QUORAISHI**

**CONSTANTINE**

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**ANNOUNCE**



# Putting porn in its place

Bel Mooney is a Sixties liberal who now finds disturbing implications in girlie magazines. Catherine Bennett reports

A bunch of balloons hung on Bel Mooney's front door and a child-made sign saying Hello. Later, she said, a score of eight-year-olds would be arriving for her daughter's birthday party. Meanwhile, would I like to look at her own collection of dirty magazines? There was a tray full of smut in Mooney's attic study — *Hustler*, *Penthouse*, *Playboy* — which were, as she said, flicking bravely through the pages, "just disgusting".

Mooney would like to get rid of them — for it is more than a year since she finished her novel *The Fourth of July*, about an American pornographer's house party — but apparently that is not an easy thing to do. "If I put them in the dustbin, they will think Jonathan (Dimbleby, her husband) reads them," she said, alluringly distraught in a light black dress. If she disposed of them in Bath, where she shares a weekend house with her parents, her father would "freak out".

So they still skulk in the study, where, a couple of years ago, Mooney's 12-year-old son took to browsing in secret. When his 10-year-old cousin squealed, she delivered a rebuke which was, she says, "very telling — not that he shouldn't be looking, but he shouldn't be rifling through my study".

That was typical of the open kind of parent Mooney says she is: prepared to discuss anything with her children; to tell them that nudity is a fine thing; to laugh, "the fact is all boys have a fascination with naked women". The problem for Mooney, and for many people who were liberated in the Sixties only to be disgusted by the Eighties, is that she is very disturbed by the increasingly gynaecological poses in such magazines — and when she forgets to be liberal she will call them "not nice", even "filth".

She reconsidered her reasons for chastising her son. "The reason is do I want him to be looking into

women's vaginas? The answer is no. It's not the way most people see each other — it's private."

Mooney admits that she would once have defended the activities of Hugh Hefner and Bob Guccione, for she and her contemporaries believed that censorship was a greater evil than the use of women's bodies to make money for male "publishers". Indeed, as a journalist in the mid-Seventies she enterprisingly chased up Guccione, the proprietor of *Penthouse*, and accepted a job in his empire as European editor of *Viva*, a women's magazine which had made its name by showing full-frontal male nudes. *Viva*, she said, was by then respectable and it took Mooney on frequent trips to the States, where she went to casinos and enjoyed the company of rich men and *Penthouse* Pets. Guccione was "very good to me".

"I don't think my consciousness was as raised as it should have been," she said. "Looking back, I was far more charmed by the glamour of that world than I was alive to its implications."

But she has since noticed an insidious hardening of "soft" porn, brought up two children, read *Andrea Dworkin* — and *The Fourth of July* is now specifically about the moral implications of the world of soft porn publishers, a little tragedy about a doomed pin-up girl drowning in a stew of money, sex and cocaine. Although Mooney stresses that she never saw anything seamy in the lives of the rich and pornographic has convinced her that nothing she invented is exaggerated. "Some of the things which went on in the Hefner entourage make my book look like a vicarage tea party."

Mooney's fictional men are all odious if intelligent, the women all victims, of various degrees of complicity. It is all deliberately distant from her earlier novels, in which middle-class women brooded



Bel Mooney at home: "Which would you rather do, work in Woolies or take your clothes off for *Penthouse*?"

about the deaths of loved ones. *The Fourth of July* has a middle-class British woman, too, as narrator, but she is what Mooney calls "a hard core", and obscenely punished for her hypocritical assumption that she can consort with pornographers without paying a price.

Mooney is more generous in her description of the American models, whose fault is principally ignorance. "I think they are pretty stupid, they don't know what they are getting into." She understood their attraction to the cash and imagined glamour. "If someone said to me, aged 20, which would you rather do, work in Woolies or take your clothes off for *Penthouse*, I'm not sure what I'd do."

That is the jaunty, liberal Mooney talking: the idea of her daughter growing up to star in *Hustler* fills her, naturally, with horror. Her sentiments echo, in a genteel fashion,

those of her fictional pornographer, Anthony Carl, when asked how he would feel if a photographer persuaded his own daughter to pose: "I'd break his legs," he replies. "That's true," Mooney said, "a girlie magazine proprietor did say that. It's dissociation; men are classically able to make a complete cut off point between the private and the public."

Most of Mooney's friends are men; people she describes as "nice intellectual liberal chaps", who can not understand why she will do things like argue in a Cambridge debate that page three girls should be banned. In fact, Mooney said, she didn't really think they should — "but I do think that page three is possibly, potentially more damaging than hard core porn because it is as ubiquitous as sliced bread, and it's bad for you. If young men are forever seeing images of women as

commodities, as dolled-up things, can we ever hope to create a society in which men do not regard women in that way, and as fair game?"

Perhaps not; and therefore should any pornography at all be available, even in adult-only specialist shops? "I don't know, I just don't know," Mooney said. "As a novelist I don't have to have opinions, I'm raising issues and values... but I do believe in my heart of hearts that every society has to have taboos, which are an essential part of civilized life; that there is a point beyond which you do not go."

"I'm just afraid that people who say no censorship are not actually seeing what's lurking there, they're living in cloud cuckoo land — and I think I did, and I don't any more."

© Times Newspapers Ltd 1988  
The Fourth of July by Bel Mooney, published on Monday by Hamish Hamilton (£11.95)

## When to turn off the signal

Being a doctor these days seems a bit dodgy. Last week, Dr John Powell, aged 63, was suspended for one year by the General Medical Council after being found having intercourse on his office floor with an old flame who visited him at the end of consulting hours. This week another doctor was up in front of the Council explaining the woodland trysts he had with his receptionist while apparently treating her husband's marital problems. I was particularly taken with the receptionist's evidence that: "One time we drove to the woods and kissed and cuddled for two hours. I didn't resist, but we couldn't make love then because I'd just had a varicose vein operation."



BARBARA AMIEL

To make love in the surgery or go out? Either way it seems to be professional misconduct if somebody complains. In the case of Dr Powell, it was his colleagues who heard noises in his office inconsistent with the grunts of discomfort from more routine examinations. They hired private detectives, who bugged his office and recorded the encounters and then burst in to catch the couple with all their clothes off. I don't know who was the sinner: the colleagues who might simply have gone to the doctor room for such activities, or the doctor who claimed that his old girlfriend simply refused to take no for an answer.

I must say I take a dim view of a doctor who can't be bothered to find a room outside his surgery for this sort of thing. I would certainly feel apprehensive if, while having my kidneys checked, I had to listen to sexual noises coming from next door. I just wonder if in the absence of any other proven complaint, this vulgarity alone is sufficient reason to be struck off the register or suspended.

In principle I have nothing but support for the general

women. The procreative and coupling urges don't get cancelled by virtue of a piece of paper that says you are now a doctor. But, when two adult beings respond to each other enthusiastically on hard office floors, we should be extra careful that when one is finally scored, they do not use disciplinary hearings to wreak revenge.

On the whole, I should think most doctors of either sex find it very easy to resist molesting patients even when they are extremely attractive and I suspect that in nine cases out of 10, the "sexual misconduct" begins with responses to real or perceived signals.

This matter of sexual signals is intriguing. Even if the signal is there, of course, this does not give a man any right to use force to get gratification. Mr Justice Rousset pointed this out when he jailed a man last week. The man had punched and attacked a kissogram girl who said no after an evening of disco and drinking. "Every girl is entitled to dress attractively, even provocatively, and be friendly to casual acquaintances and still say no at the end of the evening without being brutally assaulted," Mr Justice Rousset told the jury. The man was jailed for 18 months and good riddance to him.

### A man is not an electrical appliance with an on/off switch

prohibition against patient-doctor relationships. A doctor's job, after all, requires a patient to have considerable body and soul and that ought to entail special standards of trust and decorum. I suppose it is the same principle that forbids a captain of a vessel to go to bed with a willing female passenger on board ship. In certain relationships you are sufficiently in the power of a person for this sort of general prohibition to make sense. Sexual intercourse under these circumstances becomes a form of statutory rape and on the whole these rules are in everyone's best interest. One simply is intrigued by human nature.

Commonsense ought to tell a doctor to stop seeing a patient professionally the minute there is any other sort of entanglement. But I suppose that long before people are anything else they are men and

Women, now, are pretty much in charge of the sexual encounter, legally speaking, which is fair enough. I haven't any patience with a man's cry of "rape". But perhaps this legal upper hand should remind us of our psychological parity: a man is not an electrical appliance with an on/off switch. Which is something, perhaps, to bear in mind when flashing a thigh — or taking action on the noises in the room next door.

Victoria McKee advises those sending flowers for Sunday that what you order may not be what Mother gets



The wild bunches: Patrick Hackett, Harold Percy, Francesca Greenoak and Jane Packer

### FLOWER CHOICE

WHAT WE ASKED FOR:  
A natural looking, colour co-ordinated arrangement, of £15 worth of flowers to include daffodils, cream or lemon freesias, a few tulips, at least one blue iris and some green foliage.

WHAT WE GOT:  
Number 1: from Bouquets of Devon. Orange trumpet daffodils, red, yellow and pink tulips, iris. No freesias. No greenery. Cost: (inclusive of handling charge) £20.70. Verdict: good value but overblown.

Number 2: from The Flower Kiosk of Sheffield. Irises, pink tulips, yellow daisy chrysanthemums, lemon freesias and Cumberland pine. No daffodils. Cost: £18. Verdict: mother would be unmoved.

Number 3: from Rodgers the Florist in Manchester. Irises, daffodils, white and yellow tulips, yellow freesias, Cumberland pine, two packets of floral food. Cost: £16.85. Verdict: good value but unimaginative.

Number 4: from Haytons Flowers in Southampton. Coral carnations, irises, yellow chrysanthemums, daffodils, a few yellow freesias in a white plastic urn. Cost: £18.25. Verdict: "convicted".

Number 5: from Bristol Flowers, Bristol. Pink tulips, coral and yellow carnations, daffodils, white, yellow, lilac and pink freesias, gypsophila and asparagus fern in a basket. No irises. Cost: £17.80. Verdict: "full of leftovers".

Number 6: from Bodwells of Ipswich. Irises, yellow and pink-tipped carnations, yellow freesias, daffodils and fern in a green plastic pot. Cost: £18.55. Verdict: "suitable for a modern church niche".

Number 7: from Robin Wayne of Swansea. Lemon freesias, pink tulips, irises, daffodils and eucalyptus leaves. Cost: £19. Verdict: a certain "amateurish charm".

Number 8: from Sylvia Anne's Carnation Street, Birmingham. White tulips, yellow daffodils, irises, pale freesias, carnations, yellow roses, asparagus fern, flower food. Cost: £18.85. Verdict: "a bad arrangement but a good selection".

## Bouquets and barbs

My mother once called me on Mothering Sunday to thank me for "the rose" which she had received by Interflora. In the flowers-by-phone business what you ask for and what they get are not always the same thing, and recipients are usually too well-mannered to pass on any disappointment.

So *The Times* decided to test out the system in advance. Florists across London were phoned with orders to fill for destinations around the country. We were quite specific in what was wanted (see left). The price was set at £15, exclusive of handling charges — which varied from £1.85 (excluding VAT) to £6.62 (including VAT).

All the flowers arrived more or less on time (although Harrods and Selfridges were unable to accept our orders, saying that only flowers marketed such a precise delivery deadline) and then we asked four experts to assess them for aesthetic and economic value.

Our judges were Jane Packer, the floral designer responsible for the bridal flowers and headresses for the wedding of the Duke and Duchess of York; Patrick Hackett, managing director of Britain's largest cut flower wholesalers, J. & E. Page of New Covent Garden; Harold Percy, principal of the Constance Spray Flower School, and one of the Spray team who did the flowers for the Queen's coronation; and Francesca Greenoak, *The Times* gardening correspondent.

Packer pronounced bouquet number 1 "poor, very poor: by the time you've opened it the flowers would be past their best". Percy decried its lack of foliage and agreed: "It is overblown."

The judges fell silent at number 2. Finally Greenoak managed, "not much to say about that". Packer added, "Not very exciting" and Percy finished it off with "the foliage is moth-eaten".

Percy was "amazed at the poor workmanship" of number 3 — but said there seemed to be good value. Packer admitted that "the value and

quality are good, but it's lacking in all imagination". Hackett accused it of "old flowers".

Number 4, a stiff arrangement in a white plastic urn, was "the ultimate contrived arrangement", according to Packer. "But there's a lot of flowers," Greenoak said that it would make her heart sink.

Nobody could stand the perky bow on the basket in which number 5 arrived, and Hackett said it was "boring — and full of left-over flowers". Percy agreed, and Packer disgustedly pulled out broken carnations.

"Too much floristry and not enough flowers," sniffed Hackett of number 6, a triangular concoction.

Number 7, everyone agreed, was different. It was a thick "hostess bunch", as Packer described it, ready to be plunked into the nearest vase. "At least they attempted to interpret the instructions," Packer said, and Hackett liked its "amateurish charm".

Despite arriving carelessly, number 8 was the runaway favourite. ("I don't particularly like it," Packer said, "but it is smart") with three judges declaring for it.

Hackett thought number 9, with its (albeit wilted) yellow lilies, unexpected pussy willows and tight bunches of tulips, the winner for sheer value. "A bad arrangement but a good selection," Greenoak summed up.

All the experts stressed that the florist with whom you place your long-distance order is not the one who fills it. The best you can hope is that a reputable florist will choose another. "If it's someone you regularly send flowers to, track down a good local florist yourself," said Greenoak.

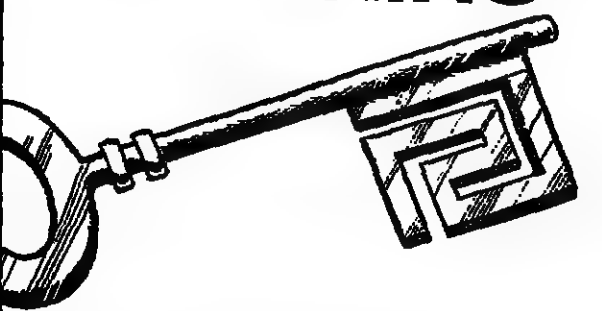
"That way you don't waste money on long distance delivery charges."

In truth, most mothers would probably prefer a bunch of daisies in a loving hand to the most ornate arrangement sent by Interflora anyway.

Additional research by Suzanne Greaves

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In whos interest?

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THE ARTS

In whose interest?

Television has a habit of clapping to its bosom those whose physical disabilities are grotesque and whose determination to overcome them may be held up as a paradigm of the unquenchable human spirit. Such programmes feed off the able-bodied viewer's pity, guilt and fear — precisely the reactions that the new orthodoxy of wheelchair-propaganda decries.

Alison John is a long-serving heroine of these latitudes, an athetoid spastic whose refusal to succumb to the vegetable life has been saluted in a *Man Alive Special* and again in the first series of

TELEVISION

**40 Minutes.** Last night's *40 Minutes* (BBC2) brought her story up to date, with her wedding to a rugby-playing curate of hideous joviality and her stubborn search for a full-time post as a youth worker.

Despite her perpetual physical wobble and agonizing speech defect, Alison is very winning and rather radiant, and the documentary had its work cut out in tacitly inviting wonder that she had found a husband — even one who apparently loves God more than he does her. In the absence of direct contrast with coeval victims of the same condition, the perspective was both monotonous and open-ended.

**This Week** (Thames) did a typically dogged job on a scandal involving nuclear waste disposal in Germany, though taking its time over deciding which line of attack to adopt. The reporter John Taylor's exposure of handsome doctors (cars, holidays, prostitutes) fell down with his revelation that some of this is in fact illegal. But then, neither is prurient interest.

The concluding report, on the possibility of an Islamic H-bomb — being constructed through the back offices of corrupt Euro-entrepreneurs, was decidedly more alarming.

Martin Cropper

Ecstasy in the Café

DANCE

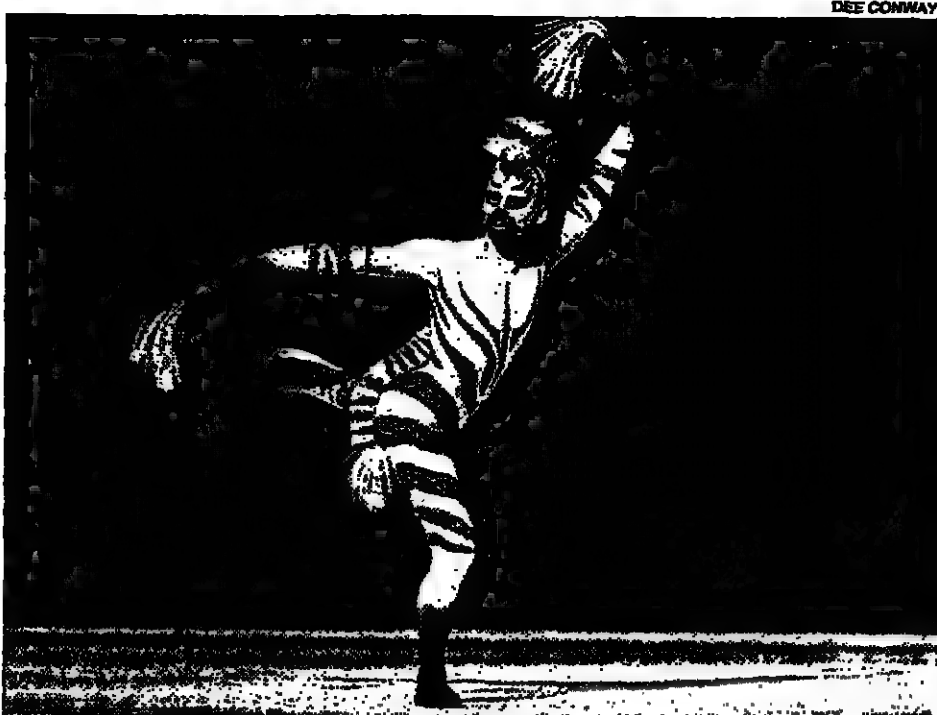
Triple bill  
Covent Garden

The imaginary Penguin Café, which Simon Jeffes and David Bintley described on this page on Wednesday, turns out, in *Still Life at the Penguin Café*, its Covent Garden incarnation, to be suitably marbled and gilded but needing to be propped up by scaffolding.

Some of its patrons have penguins' heads, others merely dress to resemble them, in white shirt-fronts and black tails. The waiters, whose spritely agility never interferes with the equilibrium of the drink trays, are of the (extinct) great auk species.

The "still life" of the title is a cabaret presented by various exotic creatures: Deborah Bull in a Utah longhorn ram's head partnered by Guy Niblett in a glamorous exhibition dancer; Bruce Sansom twitching and running enormous distances as a Texan kangaroo rat, red-necked in dungarees; Fiona Brockway, hopping impressively as a Humboldt's hog-nosed skunk; Lisa and leading five Alpine gentlemen a lively dance.

Things begin to turn more sinister when Philip Broomhead, as a Southern Cape zebra, expires after performing a witch doctor's ceremony, while bored ladies in dis-



Witch doctor's dancing ceremony before expiry: Philip Broomhead as a Southern Cape zebra

concertingly similar black and white striped skirts promenade and posture. The mood darkens further when Cynthia Harvey and Jonathan Cope, as near-naked savages, grow alarmed at the fate in store for them and their dark-eyed child (played with great aplomb by Sonia Noy, a very young ballet pupil).

The efforts of Stephen Jeffries, as a Brazilian woolly

monkey, to cheer everyone up are short-lived. It soon becomes clear that the drinks are running out, the acid rain is falling, and we are all endangered species.

Bintley manages, somehow, to keep a great deal of energy going in his exuberant and inventive choreography, even while conveying this message, and at the end, gives a hint that while there's still life,

there's still hope — provided that we start building our ark straight away.

Although it has a serious point, *"Still Life"* at the Penguin Café must be the most cheerful and amusing new ballet at Covent Garden for well over a decade. Jeffes' music remains almost as funny and as disturbingly strange in its adaptation for a conventional orchestra, as on the

original recordings by his own band, and the Covent Garden players under Isaiah Jackson give it a zest to match the happenings on stage.

Hayden Griffin's series of colourfully and meticulously detailed backdrops, different in shape and size, but displayed, sometimes for moments only, within a permanent dark surround, enhance the action as much as his ingenious, equally well observed, fanciful costumes.

Above all, it is the originality of Bintley's concept and the flair with which he has carried it out, that win the day, together with the ecstatically lively and diverting performances.

The new work was preceded at last night's premiere by two Balanchine ballets. *Serenade*, to Tchaikovsky's *Serenade for Strings*, has long been familiar here. Patricia Neary supervised this revival and ensured vibrant, vivid dancing from the women of the corps de ballet as well as from a good group of principals.

*Bugaku* is new to the Royal Ballet repertoire, although New York City Ballet showed it at Covent Garden in 1965. It was much liked then, but Toshiro Mayumura's Japanese music for a Western orchestra got a throat-clearing reception from this audience, and Balanchine's classical ballet treatment of a Japanese wedding night looked contrived and sometimes coy.

John Percival

Dazzling British debut by dance duo from Israel

Two Room Apartment  
The Place

Liat Dror and Nir Ben Gal, two dancers from Israel, have begun to make a reputation in the past two or three years both at home and abroad, winning prizes for choreography in Tel Aviv and Cologne and mounting works in Holland and for the Kibbutz and Batsheva dance companies. *Two Room Apartment*, which was their

British debut at The Place on Monday, is a dance by and for the pair of them.

They perform within the framework of metal tubes, indicating the boundaries of their rooms, but also the constraints of society and the barriers people put up round themselves (design by Yael Pardess). All those aspects are suggested by the action.

At first they stretch, fidget, gradually gather impetus, until they are striding round and round, joining in

the marching song provided by Ori Vidislavski's soundtrack.

Released from what seems an obsessive but joyful task, they explore a personal relationship that switches mood frequently between affection, desire, and rejection.

The treatment of the movement is minimalist; everyday gestures and actions repeated sometimes over and over, but it avoids the aridity that can afflict this style by its concentration

on revealing human feelings. There is considerable variety within some of the repeated passages and also in the duration and pacing of the various episodes.

The quality of production and performance put this a cut above anything else I have seen or heard reported at The Place during its present dance season. A pity that they played to a smaller audience than some far less gifted groups.

J.P.

A pure original

CONCERTS

Hilliard Ensemble  
Brompton Oratory

Having heard Arvo Pärt's *St John Passion* the day after Sofia Gubaydulina's symphony, one is bound to conclude that Holy Russia lives. The tranquil, quiet but inextinguishable modal chant of Pärt's setting recalls plain-song, and it echoes too with the Catholic polyphonic tradition and, almost inevitably, German devotional drama. Yet these correspondences seem by the way: the work is calmly and purely original, and deserves to be heard by large audiences on its Arts Council tour.

One audible sign of Pärt's originality is the way in which his lines, though always simultaneous, never in counterpoint, still are heard as separate, largely because each is so clearly defined by its minimal material. If things instantaneous are experienced as distinct, one is in the

curious position of hearing any moment in two, three or four different ways, all at the same time: it is a bewildering effect, unlike anything else in music, and sustained in great variety through the 70 minutes of a score laid out for modest resources of voices and instruments.

Within this austere world, sudden change can be momentous, as when the counter-tenor of the Evangelist quartet holds a note at the point of Peter's third denial, or when the single word "flagellavit" is measured out in long values, or when the tenor Pilate drops to his lowest register when he first has to say "crucify". The most abrupt surprise, though comes at the end, when the music comes down to earth and to D major for a closing, glowing prayer.

This rapid, suave performance, by the Hilliard Ensemble, the Western Wind Choir and an instrumental quintet under Paul Hillier, is on tour in southern England during the next 11 days.

Paul Griffiths

LMP/Glover  
Queen Elizabeth  
Hall

To say that an orchestra is full of good players sounds rather like criticism in the guise of praise. But remarks like this are sometimes offered in homage to the London Mozart Players. It is the woodwind who are most often singled out for praise, and listening to the flute and oboe exchanges in the third movement of Haydn's 80th symphony, one could see why: utterly winning playing, delighting in its elegance, yet never falling into self-admiration.

Under Jane Glover's direction, they gave the kind of performance Haydn receives all too rarely: affectionate, attentive to detail, buoyant and skilfully paced — perhaps a little short on punch on the outer movements, but altogether showing this ceaselessly inventive piece in a very favourable light.

A similar intelligent care

was discernible in the LMP's accompaniment to Mozart's 23rd piano concerto, their concern for fine expressive pointing occasionally suggesting the influence of period performance style.

But, while soloist Stephen Hough showed full command of the longer phrase, his playing offered fewer expressive nuances along the way. And I would have liked to have heard his reasons for substituting his own cadenza for Mozart's.

Quite where Jonathan Harvey aspires in his liturgy-based works isn't easy to tell. As in several recent Harvey pieces, a kind of quest for perfection seems to underlie the conception of *Easter Orisons*, but while the process is audible, the manner is largely unattracting.

One longs for a single instrumental line to break free. A few moments of angular melody for oboes and horns in the closing pages prove to be too little too late.

Stephen Johnson

Beyond Brecht

DONALD COOPER



Caught up in messianic fervour: a tangle of members of the aptly-named Wrestling Company

THEATRE

The Last Supper  
Royal Court

Hard on the heels of the Almeida's crusading production of Howard Barker's *Possibilities*, comes this Leicester Haymarket/Royal Court co-production by The Wrestling School: a company formed for the specific purpose of performing Barker's plays, and for whom he wrote this piece. Its subject (no sneer intended) is the gathering of a charismatic leader's disciples.

Not for the first time, Barker takes his starting point where Brecht comes to an end. "The people are the city" the plebeians chorus, in Brecht's version of *Coriolanus*. In *The Last Supper* this recurs in a prologue where the people declare themselves to be God: a proposition which the piece goes on to examine in a reworking of the Last Supper.

diversified with a succession of eight parables illustrating the prophet's teaching.

The setting is Barker's characteristically devastated domain: a desolate church in a war-blasted landscape, where one by one the disciples arrive through Dermot Hayes's icon-studded door. There is a cook, a scavenger, and others identified in the cast list with professions that get no expression in the text. The dialogue is in Barker's vein of lyrical disgust, interspersed with stinging epigrams and down-to-earth insult. "Only she who looked fatal to digest could be lured to my sack", announces the dog-catcher of the diseased bitch he has snared for dinner. Otherwise the tirades of luridly eloquent speech tell you little about the characters, and least of all about the prophet, Lvov, who is not feeling too good and takes some rousing from his hammock.

Judging from the parables, though, Lvov is a prophet of strength. Most of them feature

three soldiers who wander over the Mother Courage-like landscape declaring "We never kill anybody", and thus coming off badly at the hands of the rest of the population — birched by monks, cheated out of an easy rape, and lumbered with the wardrobe of a lady looter.

One of them even undergoes a virgin birth, only to be scared off stage by his progeny — a smirking infant in white muslin dandling a hand-grenade. One gets really fond of this luckless trio.

What they mean, though, is that Lvov is losing his grip over the faithful; and after a culinary fiasco with the inedible dog (staged by Kenny Ireland as a conscious echo of the blasphemous Last Supper image in Buñuel's *Viridiana*), Lvov at last comes clean and announces that he is the dinner.

Useless for Philip Sayer to protest "I've changed my mind" as the eager diners press forward to plunge in their knives, followed by an uncouth visitor who backs off one of his fingers as a marketable relic. It is certainly alienating, even if it does outdo the Polish torturer in *Possibilities* for unintended farce. The big question that remains is whether (as promised at the outset) this act of homicidal transubstantiation counts as the defilement of the people, or as a means of conserving the saintly victim's myth.

Barker demonstrably attracts actors: but on the strength of these two productions I am not convinced that it is for the best reasons. Apart from the soldiers and Meg Davies's drawlingly sardonic first killer, no character emerges; heightened speech, violent action, and hurling choric defiance at the house are no substitute for that.

Irving Wardle

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Mozart — Eine Kleine Nachtmusik  
Mozart — Violin Concertos 3 & 5  
Mozart — Violin Sonatas

Mozart — Serenade  
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Schumann — Carnival/Papillons  
Tchaikovsky — Romeo & Juliet/1812  
Tchaikovsky — Nutcracker & Swan Lake  
Tchaikovsky — Symphony No. 5  
Tchaikovsky — Sleeping Beauty  
Various — French Festival  
Various — Famous Operetta Overtures  
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# TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

## BBC1

- 6.00 **Contest All Stars** (Contestants' names in Contender's (b/w). 6.55 **Weather**
- 7.00 **Breakfast Time** with Jeremy Paxman and John Stapleton. National and international news at 7.30, 7.55, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news and travel reports at 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25. 8.35 Regional news and weather.
- 9.00 **News and weather** followed by **Open Air**. Samson Holmes receives viewers' comments on yesterday's television output. To contribute ring 081-814 0424. 9.20 **Kilroy**. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on grandparent's rights.
- 10.00 **News and weather** followed by **Going for Gold** (r). 10.25 **Children's BBC**. Andy Crane with programme news and birthday greetings followed by **Play School** and **The Adventures of Spot** (r).
- 10.55 **Five to Eleven**. A reading by Martin Munster. 11.00 **News and weather** followed by **Open Air**, with Susan Rice and Bob Weir.
- 12.00 **News and weather** followed by **Daytime Live**. Today's edition includes the results of the Broadcasting Press Guild Awards. 12.55 Regional news and weather.
- 1.00 **One O'Clock News** with Michael Barker. **Review** 1.30 **Neighbours**. An old wives' tale has an unusual effect on a pigeon. 1.50 **Film: Dinner at Eight** (1933, b/w) starring Jean Harlow, Marie Dressler, Wallace Beery and Lionel Barrymore. Comedy drama about how the lives of a group of New Yorkers interweave as they prepare, separately, for a high society dinner. Directed by George Cukor. 3.40 **Ask Margo**. Citizens' rights advice from Margo MacDonald.
- 3.50 **Comers**. Young people's questions answered.

## BBC2

- 6.55 **Open University: Earthquakes** - Seismology at Work. Ends at 7.20. 6.55 **Celebs**.
- 9.30 **Daytime on Two**: a girl, her boyfriend and parents discuss why they think they are 9.32 Part eight of a story about a pigeon racing 10.15 **A Profile of the Dalriad Valley**. Argyle 10.30 **Does the way black people are represented in the media affect their attitudes on views?** 11.00 **The story of the Tiger-Skin Rug** 11.10 **Logo** 11.25 **A visit to the Isle of Rhum** 12.00 **The Seduction**, a poem by Eileen McAuley 12.30 **Alcohol abuse** 1.45 **Military service in France** 1.20 **A programme for young children** 1.30 **English: horror stories** 2.00 **News and weather** followed by a series for four- and five-year olds. 2.15 **Weekend Look** (r).
- 2.30 **Sport on Friday**. Indoor bowls and rallying. Includes news and weather at 3.00.
- 3.30 **News and weather**.
- 4.00 **Catchword**.
- 4.30 **World Bowls**. The second quarter-final of the Embassy World Indoor Championship. Ends at 12.20pm.

## ITV/LONDON

- 6.00 **TV-am** includes news, weather, financial reports and sport with Good Morning Britain, on for half an hour at 6.30 and 8.00. After nine o'clock include Russell Grant and his mother.
- 8.25 **Thames news**.
- 8.30 **Newsline**. Celebrity mime game presented by Michael Parkinson. This morning Lionel Blair and Lisa Goddard are joined by Lorna Dalley, Eve Pearce, Ian McCaskill, Adrienne Posta, Mike Read and Chris Tarrant. 10.00 **Santa Barbara** 10.25 **News headlines**.
- 10.30 **The Time**. The Place. Khalid Aziz chairs a discussion, linked with an Ulster studio, on whether or not there is a shoot to kill policy against the IRA. 11.10 **Rainbow**. The guest is Sandra Dickinson (r). 11.25 **Thames news headlines**.
- 11.30 **Thamesline**. What's the story? Older people explain why they have chosen to live in a particular area or style 12.00 **Gas Street**. Music. A new show presented by Suzi Quatro.
- 12.30 **News with Julia Somerville** 12.50 **Thames news**.
- 1.00 **Who's the Line?** Odd. An attractive occupations panel game presented by Penelope Keith. 1.30 **Man in a Suitcase**. The CIA agent organizes a raid on a Pyramin mansion. Hosted by Richard Bradford (r). 2.30 **In Loving Memory**. Vintage comedy series about a family firm of Yorkshire undertakers (r).
- 3.00 **News**. Ray Charles. Set in London 3.25 **Thames news headlines** 3.30 **Sons and Daughters**. Australian family drama serial.
- 4.00 **Revolting Animals** 4.10 **The Moomins**. Episode 10 (r). 4.20 **He-Man and the Masters of the Universe** 4.45 **Splash** visits the Brookside set and announces the winners of the Mothering Sunday Bouquet competition.

## CHANNEL 4

- 9.30 **Schools**.
- 12.30 **Business Daily**.
- 12.30 **Abacadabras**. The history of automation (r).
- 1.00 **On Course**.
- 1.00 **The Parliament Programme**.
- 2.30 **Equinox: Nature's Technology**. A documentary examining the engineering principles that animal evolution has developed (r). (Cricket) **Cricket** 3.30 **Time to Remember** (b/w). Part 33 focuses on 1942 when the GIs were first seen on the streets of London (r).
- 4.00 **News** on 4. Maria Nicholson is joined by Josephine Hart, Dr Bob Mullan and Robert Elms to discuss fashion, style and clothes.
- 4.30 **Fifteen to One**.
- 5.00 **Master Ed** (b/w). Vintage American film. Run Run Run Run Run. 5.30 **The Chart Show** part one. 5.50 **Maat and Tidy**. The fifth and final episode. 6.30 **The Chart Show** part two. 7.00 **Book Choice**. George Walden, MP, a former diplomat in Paris, reviews Yann Queffelec's *The Wedding*, which won the Prix Goncourt. (Cricket)

# A searcher after ghosts

## TELEVISION CHOICE

Repeated for the 50th anniversary of Hitler's annexation of Austria, *Tristan Powell's* *Anna and the Wall in Vienna* (BBC2, 9.30pm) is a personal journey through one family's history. It is conducted by George Clare, who at the time of the *Anschluss* was Georg Klar, a 17-year-old living in Vienna. He was from a family of Jews who had left the ghetto to make a comfortable mark in the Austria of the mid 19th century, a vast empire so sure of itself that an army officer could look at the calendar and read off the precise years in which he would advance in rank and draw his pension. But the anti-semitism was already there. Klar's grandfather, an army surgeon, had his promotion chances threatened on the ground of "unpleasant appearance". George Clare grew up in the Vienna of the inter-war years, watched the capital torn apart by civil war and reached a moment of truth when he spotted a



George Clare (formerly Georg Klar) whose recurring nightmare is examined in *Anna and the Wall*, 9.30pm

policeman, a close friend of long standing, wearing a Nazi armband and laying about a passer-by with his truncheon. For his father, who for nearly 30 years had been a Viennese banker, the *Anschluss* was the beginning of a death sentence. After a respite in Paris, Clare's parents were taken to a village in Vichy France. The father was arrested by the police; the mother decided to stay with him rather than join her son in Britain. They were never seen again, though for a long time afterwards. George Clare would be haunted by their presence in a bizarre dream. Having for 30 years closed his mind to the circumstances of his parents' death, Clare decided to uncover the truth. This programme, cool and unsensational, chronicles that process of discovery.

Peter Waymark

## Radio 1

MW (medium wave). Stereo on FM (see Radio 1).

5.30am **Adrian John** 7.00 **Mike Smith's Breakfast Show** 8.30 **Simon Bates** 12.30pm **News** 12.45 **Johnnie Walker** 2.00 **Steve Wright** 5.30 **Newsbeat** 5.45 **Singled Out** 7.00 **Jeff Young's Dance Music** 8.00 **Johnnie Walker** 8.30 **Adrian John** 9.30 **Ken Bruce** 11.00 **Jimmy Young** 1.05pm **Derek Jacobs** 2.00 **Johnnie Walker** 2.30 **Adrian John** 3.00 **Ken Bruce** 4.00 **Jimmy Young** 4.30 **Johnnie Walker** 5.00 **Adrian John** 5.30 **Ken Bruce** 6.00 **Jimmy Young** 6.30 **Johnnie Walker** 7.00 **Adrian John** 7.30 **Ken Bruce** 8.00 **Jimmy Young** 8.30 **Johnnie Walker** 9.00 **Adrian John** 9.30 **Ken Bruce** 10.00 **Jimmy Young** 10.30 **Johnnie Walker** 11.00 **Adrian John** 11.30 **Ken Bruce** 12.00 **Jimmy Young** 12.30 **Johnnie Walker**

## Radio 2

MW (medium wave). Stereo on FM (see Radio 1).

5.30am **Adrian John** 7.00 **Mike Smith's Breakfast Show** 8.30 **Simon Bates** 12.30pm **News** 12.45 **Johnnie Walker** 2.00 **Steve Wright** 5.30 **Newsbeat** 5.45 **Singled Out** 7.00 **Jeff Young's Dance Music** 8.00 **Johnnie Walker** 8.30 **Adrian John** 9.30 **Ken Bruce** 11.00 **Jimmy Young** 1.05pm **Derek Jacobs** 2.00 **Johnnie Walker** 2.30 **Adrian John** 3.00 **Ken Bruce** 4.00 **Jimmy Young** 4.30 **Johnnie Walker** 5.00 **Adrian John** 5.30 **Ken Bruce** 6.00 **Jimmy Young** 6.30 **Johnnie Walker** 7.00 **Adrian John** 7.30 **Ken Bruce** 8.00 **Jimmy Young** 8.30 **Johnnie Walker** 9.00 **Adrian John** 9.30 **Ken Bruce** 10.00 **Jimmy Young** 10.30 **Johnnie Walker** 11.00 **Adrian John** 11.30 **Ken Bruce** 12.00 **Jimmy Young** 12.30 **Johnnie Walker**

## WORLD SERVICE

All programme times are given in GMT.

6.00am **World News** 6.30am **World News** 7.00am **World News** 7.30am **World News** 8.00am **World News** 8.30am **World News** 9.00am **World News** 9.30am **World News** 10.00am **World News** 10.30am **World News** 11.00am **World News** 11.30am **World News** 12.00pm **World News** 12.30pm **World News** 1.00pm **World News** 1.30pm **World News** 2.00pm **World News** 2.30pm **World News** 3.00pm **World News** 3.30pm **World News** 4.00pm **World News** 4.30pm **World News** 5.00pm **World News** 5.30pm **World News** 6.00pm **World News** 6.30pm **World News** 7.00pm **World News** 7.30pm **World News** 8.00pm **World News** 8.30pm **World News** 9.00pm **World News** 9.30pm **World News** 10.00pm **World News** 10.30pm **World News** 11.00pm **World News** 11.30pm **World News** 12.00pm **World News** 12.30pm **World News** 1.00pm **World News** 1.30pm **World News** 2.00pm **World News** 2.30pm **World News** 3.00pm **World News** 3.30pm **World News** 4.00pm **World 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FRIDAY MARCH 11 1988

Executive Editor  
David Brewerton

STOCK MARKET

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FT-SE 100  
1834.6 (+19.3)

Bargains  
28632 (27687)

USM (Datastream)  
149.92 (+0.32)

THE POUND

US dollar  
1.8435 (-0.0035)

W German mark  
3.0676 (-0.0123)

Trade-weighted  
77.1 (-0.1)

## Payment proposal agreed

Guinness, the drinks group, and Cambrian and General Securities, the investment trust formerly run by disgraced arbitrageur Mr Ivan Boesky, have agreed to a repayment proposal by the liquidator of the former Ivan Boesky & Co.

Guinness stands to recoup \$25.5 million (£13.8 million) of its \$100 million investment and Cambrian will receive \$9 million of its \$20 million investment. The assets of the Boesky investment company were frozen by the Securities and Exchange Commission in New York, but the freezing order expires next week. If the liquidator, based in Cambridge, Massachusetts, receives sufficient support from investors the distribution will go ahead.

**KENNETH FLEET**  
In *The Times* tomorrow, Kenneth Fleet looks forward to the Budget on Tuesday

## Pineapple cost

Last January's sale of the Pineapple dance studios business to founder Debbie Moore cost has cost the remaining Pineapple Group £481,000.

## Cooke to go

The Bank of England is to lose its third top official in quick succession this autumn when Mr Peter Cooke, an associate director responsible for international banking regulation, retires prematurely at the age of 56.

## SUMMARY

### STOCK MARKETS

New York	Dow Jones	2071.12 (-3.15)*
Tokyo	Nikkei Average	25817.22 (+12.43)
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	2581.34 (+30.58)
Amsterdam	Gen	243.8 (+0.3)
Sydney	AO	1388.4 (+18.4)
Frankfurt	Commerzbank	1402.4 (+6.3)
Brussels	General	5013.7 (-28.4)
Paris	CAC	307.0 (+2.8)
Zurich	SSA Gen	487.3 (+2.4)
London	FT-A All-Share	1472.3 (+12.2)
FT-30		1472.3 (+12.2)
FT-100		1834.6 (+19.3)
FT-250		28632 (+27687)
FT-500		149.92 (+0.32)
FT-1000		77.1 (-0.1)

### MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:		
Conder Group	282 1/2p	(+20p)
Brit Aerospace	285p	(+10p)
Scott & Newcastle	282 1/2p	(+20p)
Microfilm Repro	427 1/2p	(+20p)
Merrivale Moore	380p	(+20p)
Britoil	513 1/2p	(+14p)
BP	278 1/2p	(+18p)
Inchcape	724p	(+22p)
Lookers	1450p	(+14p)
Wagon Inds	252 1/2p	(+14p)
Conform	252 1/2p	(+15p)
Dencora	165p	(+15p)
Land Leisure	315p	(+17p)
Eurochem	515p	(+14p)
Frogmore	318p	(+13p)
FALLS:		
Pearl	438 1/2p	(-15p)
Miles	153 1/2p	(-10p)
Slater-Ze	705p	(-20p)
Prudential	840p	(-14p)

### INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base	9%
3-month interbank	9.5%
3-month eligible bills	9.5%
buying rate	
US: Prime Rate	8 1/2%
Federal Funds	5 1/4%
3-month Treasury Bills	5.77-5.78%
30-year bonds	10.3%-10.3 1/2%

### CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: \$1.8435	£: \$1.8420*
DM: 3.0676	DM: 3.0652*
FF: 166.63	FF: 166.63*
¥: 160.36	¥: 160.36*
₹: 47.84	₹: 47.84*
₧: 166.63	₧: 166.63*
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# How awa

BAT looked at first news of diversification. City Shares financial services, which was announced that BAT wanted more than \$2 billion to buy US insurance.

First, it proposed \$60 a share of assets of over £100 million. London's nothing of the kind. The move was a sign of corporate power, not come from the auction by BAT short-term debt shape other companies earnings decline.

Several things have happened. City's initial bid, far from looking impressive, would be far from the BAT's offer. The holders' estate banks to win more for more costly, than the one cited in London.

Farmers' position as a US insurance company called persons with risks very and the much operation venibility in the U.S. far from public.

Farmers publicly said:

## Jump by Frogmore

Frogmore Energy trading company, made its profits for December of £2.4 million (£2.4 million). The profit for the month was £1.7 million (£1.7 million), and £1.7 million (£1.7 million) investment (£1.7 million).

## Arenson up

Arenson Group furniture store for the period ending 31 of 1994, and is making a dividend rise.

## Lloyd's move

The ruling court insurance market proposals for Lloyd's broker since November document.

## CALA ahead

CALA, the South builder, increased the six months of £1 million. An interest 10.5% was declared.

## Rover's advance warning

Over Group seems to be losing its status as a quoted company. In Japan, the final approval of the venture partner Honda, its permanent takeover has been heard. I hear the chances of public offerings are being considered. But Rover's shares have dropped 14% in the last three weeks. It appeared that the shares were to be put up to the dealer's bids, despite the fact that to Rover's board members Laing & Crompton, the results in quarter were so good, they were surprised. They said: "I don't know, a subsidiary ever, break the codes of practice." But generalists would not expect competitive information by way of an action plan. On the other hand, the shares rose 14% during the past week, and yesterday's rising prices were not the shares rising.



## John Bell analyses Farmers' position on the BAT bid

# How a Californian giant grew away from its farming roots

BAT looked as though it had blotted its copy book when the first news of its biggest-ever diversification reached the City. Shares of the tobacco-tobacco services group tumbled when investors learned that BAT wanted to splash out more than \$4 billion (£2.34 billion) to buy Farmers, the US insurance group.

First, the proposed outlay of \$60 a share for a group with assets of only \$22 a share unnerved fund managers. Second, London knew little or nothing of the Los Angeles-based Farmers. What it did learn from more knowledgeable insurance watchers on Wall Street was not comforting. The message came back loud and clear that Farmers was a highly unusual corporate animal which would not come cheaply, if at all. An auction by BAT could lead to short-term damage in the shape of unacceptable levels of earnings dilutions.

Several weeks later three things have emerged. First, the City's initial fears were entirely misplaced. BAT's strategy, far from being faulty, looks impeccable on closer examination. Second, the little-known Farmers group would be far more of a jewel in BAT's crown than most shareholders realize. And third, the battle to win control may be far more complex, lengthy and costly than has been appreciated in London.

Farmers occupies a prized position as number two in the US insurance market for so-called personal lines, dealing with risks such as car, property and casualty. Including the much smaller life insurance operations, it is the seventh-largest insurance group in the US. But its structure is far from conventional.

"Farmers Group Inc, the publicly-listed group, is not an

insurance company," says Mr Charles Schultz, the chief financial officer. "Apart from the life businesses, Farmers does not underwrite policies or pay claims, it does not participate in underwriting gains or losses from the property and casualty operations."

Farmers' strength, giving it an unbroken record of growth in earnings since it started trading in 1928, is that it is a management company. Its income arises from the running of three large groups of policyholders known as "reciprocity" similar to British mutual insurance companies.

Reciprocity dates back to the late 1880s when individuals who felt they were not able to find insurance cover at acceptable rates decided to pool their cash and effectively insure each other. Farmers started when groups of ranchers and agricultural small-holders banded together to give themselves cheap car cover. The pools of policyholders themselves take on board the ups and downs of underwriting cycles.

### Our position is that we are not for sale

Farmers Inc receives its revenue from dealing with the administration of the reciprocity, collecting premiums, managing investments and setting rates.

"Our success speaks for itself in terms of performance," says Mr Schultz. "Premium growth has compounded at 14 per cent annually since 1973. It reached \$5 billion in 1987. Prospects are every bit as good as the record suggests."

"Over the past five years shareholders have enjoyed an average return of capital ap-



preciation plus dividends of 21.4 per cent; over the past 15 years returns to shareholders averaged 18 per cent, substantially better than the Standard & Poor's 500 index," he said.

There are 11 million policyholders backed by \$11.5 billion of assets, 70 per cent of which is directly owned by policyholders, not by the listed company.

If BAT manages to win the takeover battle, it will add to its subsidiaries Eagle Star and Allied Dunbar a leading player in the US insurance market, which itself accounts for about half the world total. And Farmers is strong in the 26 western and mid-western states where economic growth tends to be faster than the national average.

But there is a long way to go before BAT can claim victory.

Mr Leo Denlea, the Farmers chairman, says BAT's \$60 per share sighting shot was "inadequate."

"Our basic position is that we are not for sale."

"Since we have never put the company on the market we are not required to negotiate a sale with anyone. We pointed out to BAT that we have well served our shareholders year in and year out. We say to the company that

### Farmers will do better as an independent

we will do better in continuing as an independent."

Mr Denlea points out, however, that for legal reasons he is not able to comment on BAT's improved tender offer.

"If someone comes along with what the lawyers call a pre-emptive offer we have to consider it."

"That was the statement I made at the time and a lot of people chose to regard that as us saying that we wanted to sit down and negotiate a price. This is not the case."

"We will have a meeting of

the board in due course and will respond to the tender offer but I can't say when."

Mr Denlea said Farmers' attitude to any possible bidder was to ask what they could bring to the party that Farmers needed but could not provide itself. "To be very candid, every chief executive in the US is paranoid about takeovers because they happen and continue to happen. But we always felt that our results speak for themselves. In most takeovers the target company is poorly managed, underutilizes its assets, and earnings tend to be poor. That is not the case with Farmers."

Mr Denlea, aged 58, but who looks 10 years younger and plays basketball for a hobby, is sanguine about the future. "We are confident that we can continue to provide excellent results," he said.

According to Wall Street analysts BAT is unlikely to derive much comfort from Farmers' performance in the present year; estimates range between a 15 and 20 per cent rise in net earnings per share.

Before BAT can gain control of Farmers it must clear some formidable regulatory hurdles. It must satisfy nine key state insurance authorities which supervise much of Farmers' business. This may not be impossible but it may be lengthy and difficult.

In a US election year public opinion could go against the BAT bid. "In this country we are constrained because we cannot write off goodwill but have to amortize it against earnings. If the goodwill element is big this can be a killer for acquiring companies," said Mr Denlea. "Personally I have difficulty with the concept that you can pay lots of money, then write it off and still call it a good deal."

## COMMENT David Brewerton

# Rover's assets could come to BAE's rescue

Jim Slater, one-time whiz-kid banker and minus millionaire, and more importantly one-time director of BLMC, the doomed car group which eventually became Rover, will be able to see the logic of British Aerospace's proposed acquisition of Rover. The deal offers first a profits strip, and then an assets strip. Rover could rescue, if necessary, British Aerospace, not the other way round.

The profits strip becomes credible with the publication of group results showing a pretax loss of only £21.6 million, compared with the £455 million deficit of 1986. At the pre-interest level, the group produced a profit of £27.9 million, which, after the first-half pre-interest loss of £7.3 million suggests a second-half profit of £35.2 million.

BAe has made it clear that it will buy Rover Group only when its balance sheet has been cleaned up, and despite the dark murmurings from Brussels, it is likely to get its way. If the debt to the Government is written off and the bankers repaid, Rover could be producing profits at the rate of £75 million a year even with no further productivity improvements. Rover thus acquires a positive value as soon as the debt is written off, and it is not at all difficult to value the group at £250 million on the basis of profits alone.

But there is more to Rover than profits. There are assets. Acres and acres of them. Jim Slater, who learned about business at the knee of Lord Stokes, knew the worth of the assets that the group represented, but was never able to do anything to exploit them. Professor Roland Smith, chairman of BAE, also knows all about assets because his own company is also stuffed with them. Between BAE and Rover, there is scope for enormous rationalization, and sales of surplus sites. The sums could run to hundreds of millions.

At just one site which is already surplus to Rover's needs, the former Bathgate truck plant, there are plans to build on a million square feet of space a smaller version of the Metrocentre containing a department store, shops, a leisure centre and 8,000 car parking spaces. Rover's land and buildings, virtually all freehold, were included in the 1986 accounts at a valuation of just under £140 million. The real value is much higher.

BAE, meanwhile, is also a treasurehouse of assets, many underutilized. In many ways, BAE today resembles an earlier incarnation of Rover, with huge development costs eating away at profitability, and profits being eroded not by strikes but by currency swings. Rover's profits could arrive just in the nick of time.

## Room near the top

The Bank of England's management organization chart is beginning to look decidedly full of holes. Since Robin Leigh-Pemberton was reappointed as Governor in January, he has lost two of his four executive directors. Yesterday, he mislaid his only remaining associate director, Peter Cooke. Was it something he said?

The moves, though quite separate, are not entirely coincidental. The Governor has not, it seems, been conducting a thorough personnel rethink after the considerable uncertainty over his own future was removed in good time by Mrs Thatcher. Rather, individuals appear to have been reassessing their own career prospects in the absence of movement at the top and, in some cases, faced with challenging outside offers.

Mr Cooke's prospects did not look good. He has developed formidable experience and reputation in the arcane but increasingly vital field of international bank regulation. It is as much a tribute as a convenience that the committee he chaired became known as the Cooke committee.

But the committee's work on convergence of bank capital adequacy has reached fruition; he has been running it for 11 years and international organizations become restive unless someone else is eventually given a turn.

At home, Mr Cooke carried the can for the mistakes over Johnson Matthey Bankers and was clearly not lined up for a big new job. In particular, he was not destined to take over as executive director in charge of banking supervision when Rodney Galpin goes to head Standard Chartered. Brian Quinn, now head of the supervision department, looks a short favourite to step up to the top ranks with Eddie George and Anthony Loehnis, the overseas director.

Mr Cooke, like David Walker, will not be directly replaced. But there are certainly gaps at the top. By statute there can only be four executive directors and, with Mr Walker staying on the Court when he departs for the SIB, there can only be three. Associate directors are the next best thing, along with the Governor's two policy advisers: John Flemming on the economy and the influential Tony Coleby on money.

Last autumn, the other associate director, Douglas Dawkins, retired, and his many administrative jobs were shared around, mainly between Messrs George and Walker. The Deputy Governor, Sir George Blunden, a great administrator, will not be there for ever. As Mr George eyes his job, there look to be plenty of opportunities for the next generation to come on. Watch the Governor's next round of appointments for the next Governor but one.

## Jump by Frogmore

Frogmore Estates, the property trading and investment company, made first-half pretax profits to the end of December of £22.7 million, (£8.4 million).

The profit came from £17.4 million in trading (£8.2 million), and £5.3 million from investment property sales (£172,000).

### Arenson up

Arenson Group, the office furniture manufacturer, reports an interim pretax profit for the period ended January 31 of £904,000 (£351,000), and is raising its interim dividend from 0.55p to 1.1p.

### Lloyd's move

The ruling council of Lloyd's insurance market has accepted proposals for the regulation of Lloyd's brokers contained in last November's consultative document.

### CALA ahead

CALA, the Scottish house-builder, increased profits in the six months to end-December from £1 million to £1.6 million. An interim dividend of 0.85p was declared.

## William Collins' profits advance 55%

By Michael Tate

Mikhail Gorbachev's *Perestroika* and the *Day in the Life of...* books on America and the Soviet Union helped William Collins, the Glasgow publisher, to a 55 per cent increase in pretax profits in 1987, to £24.1 million.

The *Day in the Life of...* books have together sold more than 1.5 million copies at £40 (£21.70) apiece, says Mr Ian Chapman, Collins' chairman and chief executive, while Mr Gorbachev's book, a publishing precedent, has sold 50,000 copies in the UK.

The results are the first from Collins since last September's £96 million acquisition of a 50 per cent stake in Harper & Row, the US publishing house, from Mr Rupert Murdoch's US subsidiary, News America.

They include a £4.7 million pretax contribution from Harper & Row, covering the three and a half months since the acquisition.

Harper & Row has been run

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Harper & Row has been run

by Collins' deputy chairman, Mr George Craig, since last May and in the eight months to end-December, it made \$28.4 million — "well ahead of our expectations," says Mr Chapman.

Mr Craig is, however, leaving Collins over a "certain difference in approach" but is expected to be appointed chief executive at Harper & Row in the next few days. As he leaves, the former Babcock International finance director, Mr Christopher Taylor,

moves in as group finance director.

Collins' earnings are up from 30.4p to 41.0p a share, and shareholders, including Mr Murdoch's News International, owner of 41.68 per cent of the voting capital, pick up a final dividend of 8.5p, making 11.75p a share, a rise of 27 per cent.

Mr Chapman predicts that a best-seller price war could break out if Mr Nigel Lawson imposes a full 15 per cent VAT rate on books next week.

## Conoco ends onshore work

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Conoco (UK), one of the leading North Sea oil producers, has pulled out of the onshore oil exploration business and sold its licences to a small Scottish exploration company.

In return, Conoco will acquire from the company an 11 per cent interest in a block in the southern sector of the North Sea where substantial gas discoveries have been made, and which adjoins a block already owned by Conoco where there has been a significant gas find.

Conoco has decided that it will concentrate its future development plans on the North Sea and hopes to bring its gas discovery on stream before the end of the decade with a new pipeline being built to take the gas to the Theddlethorpe terminal in Lincolnshire.

The onshore licences have been acquired by Caledonian Offshore, an Edinburgh-based company, set up in 1971 and whose directors include Dr Dickson Mabon, the former Labour Energy Minister who

later joined the Social Democratic Party.

Mr Bill Gammell, a director of the company, said yesterday: "A small onshore field producing 300 barrels a day can be developed by a company of our size, but would not be attractive for a company such as Conoco."

Caledonian Offshore intends to bring forward its plans to develop two of the onshore oil discoveries made by Conoco over the next two years.

## Rover's advance warning

Rover Group seems to be pinning all its hopes on affirming its status as a publicly quoted company. While chairman Graham Day is away in Japan attempting to secure final approval from its joint-venture partner, Honda, for its imminent takeover by British Aerospace, the company has, I hear, had its knuckles rapped by the Stock Exchange for publishing a series of price-sensitive advertisements in national newspapers ahead of its results yesterday. But Rover appears to have shrugged such reprimands aside: the ads, which first appeared about 10 days ago, continued to be published right up to the dawn of the results, despite frosty warnings to Rover's broker, Alexander Laing & Cruickshank, from the Exchange.

Flagging the results in quarter-page ads, they went so far as to promise: "You may find them mildly surprising." Dreamt up by Dorland, a subsidiary of Saatchi & Saatchi, the ads, however, break Stock Exchange codes of practice. "We do not discuss individual cases," says a spokesman for the Exchange. "But generally we would not expect companies to make potentially price-sensitive information available by way of an advertisement." On the premise that no one would advertise bad news, the shares rose 14p to 89p during the past week. Therefore, yesterday's encouraging figures were not even "mildly surprising" — and the shares slipped 4p.

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

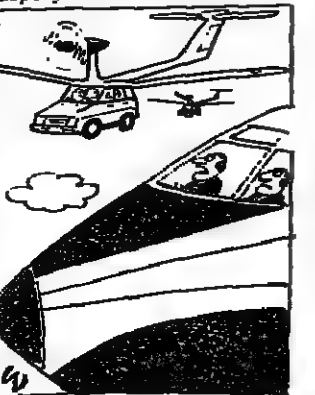
### Chuckling-out time

Uproar broke out at the analysts' meeting hosted by Nicholas Ward, the tough-talking chairman of pharmaceuticals group MacCarthy, yesterday, to discuss its acrimonious \$65 million takeover bid for UniChem. Richard Hannah and Marion Sears, both Phillips & Drew analysts, were, I hear, asked to leave. P&D's corporate finance division is, after all, advising UniChem, whose

controversial marketing tactics have thrown the entire industry into turmoil. But my spy tells me that a fierce argument broke out, culminating in a threat by Schroder's Derek Netherton that: "We have heaves downstays, but we don't want to use them." The P&D team then left. Hannah was later reluctant to talk about the incident but admitted that they had to be "persuaded" to leave.

### SDPay

Unless David Steel makes his own pitch for it, Dr David Owen looks assured of at least one donations cheque in 1988: a handsome £10,000 payment from Coats Viyella. Coats' deputy chairman David Alli-



"Air traffic is quite bad enough without British Aerospace Mini Metros"

ance (no pun intended) tells me that in 1987 the group gave both the Conservative Party and the Social Democratic Party £10,000. But while Mrs Thatcher's cheque still looks good for 1988, there is some debate, after the Owen-Steel split, as to who will get the other cheque this year. "The matter is not decided yet," Alliance says. "but I thought David Owen was good at the time."

### Irish highs

Patrick O'Reilly, Panmure Gordon's ebullient Irish corporate finance director, has been advising warship designer and builder Vosper Thornycroft on its imminent introduction to the stock market. The issue, valuing Vosper at some £49.3 million, is expected to go to a handsome premium when dealings start on March 17. That date is also — and coincidentally, I'm assured — St Patrick's Day.

## Gillum to move on

If you think merchant bankers are looking younger these days, you are probably right. At the age of 50, John Gillum of Rothschild reckons he is the longest-serving corporate financier in the business. And now he is about to go. Gillum plans to leave the Square Mile later this year, to concentrate on his corporate roles as non-executive chairman of Atlantic Computers and Blagden Industries, and non-executive vice-chairman at Ramblers. His city career began with Robert Benson & Lonsdale, later to merge with Kleinwort, in 1956. Sixteen years later he departed for Samuel Montagu, where he stayed until he fell out with Midland Bank — now Montagu's owner — in 1981. And so to Rothschild. Gillum has interesting views on the role of non-executive directors, and has himself had his controversial moments. But he has no doubts about the importance of the position he holds at Atlantic, where he stepped in following the death of founder John Foulston last year, and Blagden. "There's no such thing as a non-executive chairman," he tells me. "You're either chairman or you're not. I shall be kept busy."

After the aptly-named appointment of Mr Slipper as managing director of banana activities at Geest, the Engineering Council seems to be adopting a similar recruitment policy. Its has appointed as its new director-general Denis Filer who succeeds Kenneth Miller.

Carol Leonard

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FOCUS

ISLE OF MAN

# A new reputation for the banks

**T**he dramatic collapse in 1982 of the Savings & Investment Bank, which obliterated £42 million of depositors' money, has overshadowed the Isle of Man's development as an offshore banking centre ever since. Only now is the island beginning to recover its confidence in attracting more banks to its shores.

The collapse of this bank vividly illustrated the hopelessness of banking supervision on the Isle of Man. Only months before the disaster, the Government had certified the bank as being in a healthy condition. But there was no compensation fund for private depositors, many of whom had lost their life savings.

The Manx Government was finally pressured by public opinion into conducting an inquiry more than a year later. It did not publish the results.

Another independent inquiry by Bank of England officials was then held, even though the Bank holds no formal supervisory authority in the island. The Manx Government again refused to publish the results. It also prevented the officials involved in the Savings & Investment Bank collapse from testifying in court when cases were brought by distressed depositors.

These own goals gave the impression that the Isle of Man was a centre merely for seat-of-the-pants banking, supervised by a bunch of amateurs. The reputation was not wide of the mark.

In the past few years, however, the island has made strenuous efforts to change this image. Jim Noakes took over as banking supervisor after the Savings & Investment Bank crash and virtually banned new banks from entering the island for three years.

This ban was not lifted until 1986 when a few highly reputable institutions, such as Robert Fleming, Morgan Grenfell and Hongkong Bank were allowed to set up shop there.

In the interim, the Manx Government worked hard to

**Confidence is returning after the disastrous failure of one institution that caused many investors to lose their savings**

introduce a more rigorous supervisory structure for banks. It now claims to have a more solidly based system than almost any other offshore centre. For example, banks are licensed and supervised by a Financial Supervision Commission. The amount of insurance required by a bank's auditors in the event of a bank collapse is now so large that only the big international companies can afford to do it.

Moreover, after last November's Tyward elections, which changed the Government, a new Finance Minister has been appointed. David Cannan is seen as a champion of small shareholders' rights.

**Channel Islands are the example**

which bodes well for banking regulation on the island and for the unfortunate Savings & Investment Bank depositors. Mr Cannan has already promised new investigations into whether prosecutions of those involved in the collapse are necessary.

The new attitude has helped deposits on the island to grow, albeit rather fitfully, during the past few years. By the end of last year they had reached £3.5 billion.

The island is now promoting itself as a banking centre more confidently. Mr Noakes firmly rejects the idea of encouraging "brass-plate" operations — such as those in the Caribbean or Panama — to set up on the island. The model is much more that of the Channel Islands.

The Channel Islands have always tried to attract high-

quality banks. They have also concentrated on the retail end of the market rather than the more shadowy wholesale banking operations. The Isle of Man wants to attract the same type of business.

But although it competes to some extent with the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man also stands to benefit from their success. Jersey and Guernsey are becoming too full, and appropriate applicants turned away from there are likely to find an alternative home in the Isle of Man.

Developments in the European Community may also help. After unification of financial markets in Europe in 1992, "offshore" banking centres such as Luxembourg will no longer have their privileged status. Banks will be looking hard for an alternative.

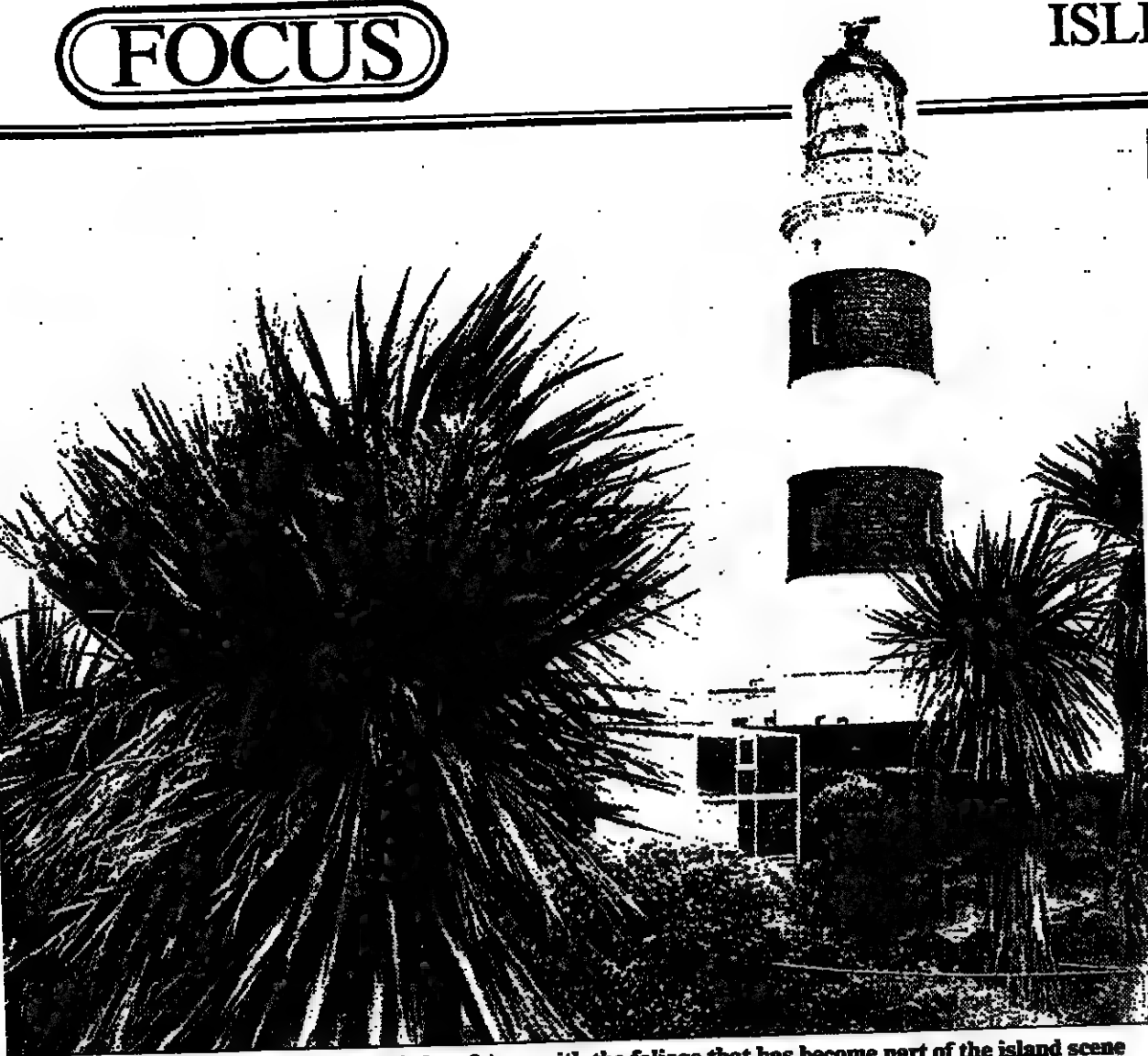
So which banks are lining up for a place on the island? The Government points out that there are already subsidiaries there owned by a wide range of banks from around the world, including New Zealand and India. It is trying to interest US banks.

So far, no significant bank from the United States has seen the need to set up on the Isle of Man, but a campaign targeted at several of the largest banks — particularly those with substantial European operations — and at US supervisory authorities could eventually change that.

Conditions certainly look propitious for the island. As banking operations become more sophisticated, the need for offshore operations to provide special services is only likely to grow. This will be fuelled by the boom in retail banking in the UK and Continental Europe and the widening of services that banks feel the need to offer.

The Isle of Man still has some way to go before convincing the international banking community that it is the up-market, orderly and prosperous offshore centre it considers itself to be. But the slowly-but-surely approach is probably the best.

**Richard Thomson**  
Banking Correspondent



Keeping watch: the lighthouse at Point of Ayre with the foliage that has become part of the island scene

## Services bringing in the prosperity

The Isle of Man has increasingly established itself in recent years as an alternative location for financial services to the Channel Islands, writes David Smith.

The expansion has come about partly because Jersey and Guernsey have approached saturation point.

Many of the companies now expanding — in insurance, banking or stockbroking — would probably have chosen the Channel Islands had it not been for the property prices and the difficulties in obtaining work permits in Jersey and Guernsey.

In addition, some companies, prevented from expanding in the Channel Islands, have instead expanded on the Isle of Man.

Douglas-based Cresta Holdings, which has substantial financial services interests and is listed on the London Stock Exchange, announced considerably increased profits last month. Brian O'Connor, the chairman, said his company had benefited from the expansion clampdown in Jersey and Guernsey, and the tighter banking supervision in the Isle of Man of the past four years had encouraged growth there.

Some companies were inevitably nervous after the Isle of Man banking scandals of the early 1980s, but most of these worries appear to have subsided thanks to the new, tighter rules.

The island has appealed particularly to so-called "captive" insurance companies — offshore businesses carried out with a mainland parent company. These businesses, strong in Guernsey, have been expanding rapidly on the Isle of Man, partly lured by complete tax exemption for offshore companies.

The hope is that more businesses will switch from captive insurance to offshore life insurance, which has a greater effect on the island's employment prospects.

Eagle Star has had an offshore life insurance operation on the island for some time, and last year Clerical Medical International set up its offshore base in Douglas.

## Now industry is in on the boom

The Isle of Man economy, boosted by an expanding financial services sector, is growing strongly. This growth is reflected not only in falling unemployment and increasing prosperity but also in migration to the island, which is running ahead of official targets.

The Government had projected a population level of 75,000 by 1995, from an April 1986 figure of 64,300. But now that the population is growing by 3.5 to 4 per cent a year officials believe the target could be reached by 1992.

The population increase has not prevented a fall in unemployment — the rate has halved to 4.5 per cent in just over a year and significant shortages of suitably qualified workers have begun to emerge, notably in financial services and business.

Should the boom continue,

the Isle of Man will have to consider raising its population target, which looked optimistic when set against the falling figures of the 1970s.

Although much of the Isle of Man's economic performance mirrors that of the mainland, notably on indicators such as inflation, the low tax regime has inevitably provided an additional spur, both to migration and to economic growth.

The basic rate of tax stands at 20 per cent, and there are no higher rates. This compares with a basic rate of 27 per cent and a top rate of 60 per cent on the mainland.

Even the most dramatic cuts in taxation by the Chancellor of the Exchequer next Tuesday will leave the Isle of Man with a significant advantage in the taxation area.

In addition, the Govern-

ment would stand ready to consider reductions in tax rates if the gap with mainland taxation levels was seen to narrow too sharply.

The financial services industry has been the leading edge in the island's boom during the 1980s, but Government officials are keen to emphasize that there are other expanding areas.

Companies considering locating industrial activity on the Isle of Man are offered an attractive package of incentives, including 40 per cent discretionary grants on new buildings, building improvements and plant and machinery, 50 per cent grants for approved training schemes and loans covering 50 per cent of working capital needs at low interest rates.

The tax regime is also a powerful pull for companies, with the corporation tax rate set at a low 20 per cent, the same as the rate of income tax.

The contribution of manufacturing industry to the island's economy is rising towards 20 per cent, helped by new ventures in high technology. Last year a Texan company, American Biodynamics, established a manufacturing and marketing operation on the Isle of Man for the production and sale of electronic devices used on kidney dialysis machines.

There are also high hopes for the Isle of Man's freeport. This 20-acre site, which will offer the usual freeport facilities, including exemption from planning requirements, duty-free storage and an absence of customs procedures, is conveniently placed near Ronaldsway airport.

**David Smith**  
Economics Correspondent

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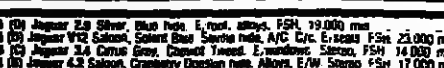
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# Causation to be established in negligence claim

## Tree order compensation is loss of value of land

**Wilsher v Essex Area Health Authority**  
Before Lord Bridge of Harwich, Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Lowry, Lord Griffiths and Lord Ackner  
[Speeches March 10]

Where a defendant's negligence causes a plaintiff's injury, the occurrence of the injury following the defendant's negligence provides evidence that it was the defendant's negligence rather than one or more of the other factors which caused the plaintiff's injury.

If there was conflicting expert evidence as to whether the defendant's negligence could have caused or materially contributed to the plaintiff's condition and the trial judge had failed to make findings on that question, the issue of causation must be retried before a different judge.

The House of Lords so stated allowing an appeal by the defendant, Essex Area Health Authority, from the decision of the Court of Appeal (7 The Times August 6, 1986; [1987] QB 730) whereby the majority had dismissed the appeal from the decision of Mr Justice Peter Pain who had given judgment for the infant plaintiff, Martin Wilsher, in the sum of £16,119. The House ordered a retrial on the causation issue.

Mr Henry Brooke, QC and Mr Stephen Miller for the defendant; Mr David Latham, QC and Mr James Badenoch for the plaintiff.

LORD BRIDGE said that the plaintiff was born three months prematurely on December 15, 1978 and suffered in the first few weeks from the afflictions which beset premature babies. He succumbed to retrolental fibroplasia (RLF), an incurable condition of the retina which, in his case, caused total blindness in one eye and severely impaired vision in the other.

He sued the defendants who were responsible for the Princess Alexandra Hospital, Harlow, on the ground that his RLF was caused by an excess of oxygen tension in his bloodstream in the early weeks attributable to a want of proper skill and care in the management of his oxygen supply.

The allegations of negligence against the defendants related to two distinct phases of the plaintiff's treatment. The first (the subject of the appeal) concerned the first 38 hours after his birth. In order to monitor the partial pressure of oxygen (P<sub>O</sub>2) in the arterial blood of a premature baby, it was standard practice to pass a catheter through the

umbilical artery into the aorta so that the P<sub>O</sub>2 level could be measured by an electronic sensor at the tip of the catheter and by blood samples from an aperture in the catheter. It was also standard practice to check the location of the sensor by X-ray after the catheter had been inserted.

The catheter was mistakenly inserted into the plaintiff's umbilical vein so that the sensor and the sampling aperture were wrongly located in the heart instead of the aorta. That meant that they would sample a mixture of arterial and venous blood, which would consequently give a false reading of the P<sub>O</sub>2 level in the arterial blood.

The house doctor and the registrar who were on duty at the material time and who saw the X-ray which was taken both failed to notice the mistake. The judge held that the failure amounted to negligence for which the authority were liable.

The crucial issue which now arose and on which the Court of Appeal was divided was whether the judgment could be affirmed on the ground that any level of P<sub>O</sub>2 in the plaintiff's arterial blood before 8am on December 17, 1978 consequent on the misplacement of the catheter caused or materially contributed to the plaintiff's RLF.

Their Lordships had all agreed that the appeal had to be allowed and that the inevitable consequence was that the outstanding issue of causation must, unless the parties reached agreement, be retried by another judge.

In those circumstances, it was highly undesirable to go into the highly complex and technical evidence on which the issue depended any further than was necessary to explain why his Lordships felt inevitably at the trial to the unpalatable conclusion that it was not open to the House to resolve the issue one way or the other.

On the other hand the appeal raised a question of law as to the proper approach to issues of causation which was of great importance and of particular concern in medical negligence cases which must be considered.

There was in the voluminous expert evidence given at the trial an irreconcilable conflict of opinion as to the cause of the plaintiff's RLF. It was common ground that a sufficiently high level of P<sub>O</sub>2 in the arterial blood of a very premature baby, if maintained for a sufficiently long period of time, could have a toxic effect on the immature blood vessels in the retina leading to a condition which

might regress or develop into RLF.

It was equally common ground, however, that RLF might occur in premature babies who had survived without any artificial administration of oxygen and that there was evidence to indicate a correlation between RLF and a number of other conditions from which premature babies commonly suffered, for example, apnoea, hyaline membrane disease, haemorrhage, patent ductus arteriosus, all of which affected the plaintiff, although no causal mechanisms linking those conditions with the development of RLF had been identified.

However, if any, part artificial administration of oxygen causing an unduly high level of P<sub>O</sub>2 in the plaintiff's arterial blood played in the causation of the plaintiff's RLF, it was material to the dispute between the parties.

Having found the defendants negligent in relation to the five periods when the P<sub>O</sub>2 level was unduly high the judge added: "There is no dispute that this materially increased the risk of RLF."

That statement, it was now accepted, was a misunderstanding of the evidence. That misunderstanding was one of the factors which resulted in the conclusion that the plaintiff had established a *prima facie* case on the issue of causation.

After a brief reference to the evidence of one of the plaintiff's witnesses and one of the defendant's witnesses which was based on an assumption of fact which he was invited to make, the judge expressed his conclusion thus: "On the basis of this evidence I find that the defendant is liable for the first and third periods of exposure did not do any damage; indeed the probability is that they did. As to the second, fourth and fifth periods the position is more doubtful."

Mr Latham, seeking to uphold the judgment in the plaintiff's favour, relied heavily on the words emphasised in the passage and pointed to the contrast between the judge's view, thereby expressed, of the causative effect of that evidence and the relevant period of exposure calling for consideration and his doubts about the effect of three of the four later episodes.

He urged the House to read that as an indication by the judge that, if he had held the issue to be on the plaintiff, he would have found in that respect, Lord Wilberforce's speech must be regarded as expressing a minority opinion.

The conclusion his Lordship drew from the speeches of Lord Reid, Lord Simon of Glaisdale, Lord Kilbrandon and Lord

Salmon was that *McGhee* laid down no new principle of law whatever. On the contrary, it affirmed the principle that the onus of proving causation lay on the plaintiff.

The starting point for any consideration of the relevant law of causation was the decision of the House in *Bonnington Castings Ltd v Wardlaw* (1956) AC 613 which was a case of a plaintiff who, in the course of his employment, contracted pneumoconiosis by the inhalation of silica dust.

Their Lordships concluded from the evidence that the plaintiff was exposed to the defendant's breach of statutory duty had made a material contribution to his pneumoconiosis which was sufficient to discharge the onus on the plaintiff of proving that his damage was caused by the defendant's tort. A year later the decision was affirmed in *Atlas Steel Foundry and Engineering Co Ltd* (1957) 1 WLR 613.

In *McGhee v National Coal Board* (1973) 1 WLR 1 the plaintiff worked in a brick kiln in hot and dusty conditions in which brick dust adhered to his sweaty skin. The employees were held to be at fault in failing to provide adequate washing facilities which resulted in the plaintiff having to bicycle home after work his body still caked in brick dust.

The plaintiff contracted dermatitis and the evidence that was caused by brick dust was accepted. The precise mechanism of causation in the disease was not known and the further the doctors called for evidence, the more they were to say that the provision of showers would have materially reduced the risk of dermatitis.

The plaintiff failed in the lower courts on the ground that he had not discharged the burden of proof of causation. He succeeded on appeal to the House of Lords. Much of the academic discussion to which the decision had given rise had focused on the speech of Lord Wilberforce, particularly on two paragraphs at pp 6 and 7.

It seemed to his Lordship that both those paragraphs amounted to saying that, in the circumstances, the burden of proof was reversed and thereby ran counter to the principle of causation which was expressed in the *Bonnington* case to the contrary effect. His Lordship found no support in any of the other speeches for the view that the burden of proof was reversed in that respect. Lord Wilberforce's speech must be regarded as expressing a minority opinion.

The conclusion his Lordship drew from the speeches of Lord Reid, Lord Simon of Glaisdale, Lord Kilbrandon and Lord

Salmon was that *McGhee* laid down no new principle of law whatever. On the contrary, it affirmed the principle that the onus of proving causation lay on the plaintiff. Adopting a robust and pragmatic approach to the undisputed primary facts of the case, the majority concluded that it was a legitimate inference of fact that the defendant's negligence had materially contributed to the plaintiff's injury.

The decision was of no greater significance than that as to attempt to extract from it some *exoteric* principle which in some way modified, as a matter of law, the nature of the burden of proof which a plaintiff had to discharge once he had established a relevant breach of duty, was a fruitless one.

In the Court of Appeal in the instant case the Vice-Chancellor, being in the minority, expressed his view with understandable caution. His Lordship was unable to find any fault with the following passage in his dissenting judgment, after discussing *McGhee*: "In the present case the question was different. There were a number of different agents which could have caused the RLF. Excess oxygen was one of them. . . . But no one can tell in this case whether excess oxygen did or did not contribute to the RLF suffered by the plaintiff. . . . the occurrence of RLF following a failure to take a necessary precaution to prevent excess oxygen causing RLF provides evidence which raises no presumption that it was excess oxygen rather than one or more of the other five factors which caused or contributed to RLF in this case. . . . On that point the appeal must in any event be allowed."

Where expert witnesses were radically at issue about complex technical questions within their own field and were examined cross-examination at length about their own conflicting theories, the judge's advantage in seeing and hearing them was scarcely less important than when he had to resolve some conflict of primary fact between lay witnesses in mundane matters. So here, in the absence of relevant findings of fact by the judge, there was no alternative to a retrial.

His Lordship would allow the appeal, aside the order of the Court of Appeal and order retrial of the issue whether the negligence of the defendants, as found by the Court of Appeal, caused or materially contributed to the plaintiff's RLF.

Before the hearing of Mr Bell's claim for compensation the council passed a resolution which set out the terms on which compensation was to be payable but the tree preservation order, section 174 being the enabling provision.

Article 9 of the order provided that any person who "suffered loss or damage in consequence of any refusal . . . of consent under this order . . . shall . . . be entitled to recover from the authority compensation in respect of such loss or damage."

The council drew attention to various provisions in the Act dealing with the measure of compensation consequent on other refusals of consent. But section 17 did not seek to define the measure of compensation. That was the function of article 9, the interpretation of which should be given reference to other provisions in the Act.

His Lordship agreed with the submissions on behalf of Mr Bell that the words of article 9 should be given their ordinary meaning and that the proved diminution in the value of his interest in his land amounted to "loss or damage in consequence of a refusal of consent."

Nothing was to be found in the order which could justify limiting compensation in the way suggested by the council. Nor was any such limitation to be found in the enabling statute.

His Lordship would reject the council's argument to the effect that the loss suffered by Mr Bell as a result of his inability to reclaim his land for agricultural grazing was a consequence of the council's refusal of consent. It was not too remote and, simply prevented the cutting down of trees.

In his Lordship's view, the diminution in the value of the land was a natural and probable consequence of the refusal of consent. It was not too remote and, simply prevented the cutting down of trees.

Lord Justice Russell and Lord Justice Taylor delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Mr M. G. P. Young, Canterbury; Kingsford, Flower & Pain, Ashford.

## No without-prejudice privilege in communications made in furtherance of crime or fraud

**Hawick Jersey International Limited v Caplan**  
Before Mr A. T. May, QC  
[Judgment February 26]

Without-prejudice privilege for communications between litigants could not be claimed where it could be shown that there was a bona fide and reasonably tenable charge of crime or fraud and that the communications were made in preparation for or in furtherance of as part of that charge.

Mr A. T. May, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division, so held in a decision upon a procedural point that the cloak of privilege claimed by the plaintiffs did not cover the contents of taped conversations which contained threats by the plaintiffs to further a presumed dishonest purpose.

Mr Charles Douthwaite for the plaintiff; Mr Murray Rosen for the defendant.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the plaintiffs, Hawick Jersey International Ltd, had claimed repayment from the defendant, Michael Caplan, of a loan for £10,000 to be made by its director, Joseph Goldberg, by means of a cheque dated December 7, 1979.

The cheque was admitted but the defendant denied that the transaction was a loan because he had supplied £10,000 cash.

The procedural point arose as to the admissibility of transcripts from two conversations, taped without the knowledge of the plaintiffs, between the defendant and the director of the plaintiffs' company on December 12, 1985 and between the defendant and the director's son, Alan Goldberg, for the plaintiffs, shortly afterwards.

In the judgment there was no conclusion upon the true state of fact, the issue being whether or not material in the transcripts was subject to privilege under the "without-prejudice" cloak.

The defendant submitted that by reason of the content of the transcripts the "without-prejudice" privilege did not avail the plaintiffs for privilege could not be used as a shield for dishonesty. It was accepted by the plaintiffs that the written transcripts were accurate and in substance correct.

Two themes ran through each conversation. There were assertions and repeated assertions by the defendant that the transaction was not a loan but an exchange for £10,000 in cash. On no occasion did the plaintiffs deny that the defendant said anything but the truth and the

that had they consented to the grubbing out they would have made a direction to replant the land.

The basis of the Lands Tribunal award was that the current value of the land in its present state was £450 per acre, whereas if reclaimed for grazing had been permitted the value would be £1,900 per acre.

Reliance was placed by the council on article 6 of the order which provided that where consent was granted to fell part of a woodland other than for silvicultural thinning "the authority shall give to the owner of the land on which that part of the woodland was situated a direction . . . [to] replant such land . . ."

In his Lordship's judgment that article derived its authority from section 60(1)(b) and by virtue of its provisions was confined to cases where any part of a woodland area "is felled in the course of forestry operations."

The council had plainly taken the view that by passing the resolution they were effectively preventing Mr Bell from mounting any claim based on differences in land values, because no diminution in value could arise if, when giving consent, there was a contemporaneous direction to replant.

In his Lordship's opinion, Mr Bell's proposals did not constitute forestry operations. But, even if the giving of a direction to replant had been open to the council, its exercise to take effect contemporaneously with the consent would have been unreasonable under *Wednesbury* principles (1948) 1 KB 223, when the felling was for the purposes of reclaiming the land for grazing.

It was not the 1971 Act itself which set out the terms on which compensation was to be payable but the tree preservation order, section 174 being the enabling provision.

Article 9 of the order provided that any person who "suffered loss or damage in consequence of any refusal . . . of consent under this order . . . shall . . . be entitled to recover from the authority compensation in respect of such loss or damage."

The council drew attention to various provisions in the Act dealing with the measure of compensation consequent on other refusals of consent. But section 17 did not seek to define the measure of compensation. That was the function of article 9, the interpretation of which should be given reference to other provisions in the Act.

His Lordship agreed with the submissions on behalf of Mr Bell that the words of article 9 should be given their ordinary meaning and that the proved diminution in the value of his interest in his land amounted to "loss or damage in consequence of a refusal of consent."

Nothing was to be found in the order which could justify limiting compensation in the way suggested by the council. Nor was any such limitation to be found in the enabling statute.

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Lord Justice Russell and Lord Justice Taylor delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Mr M. G. P. Young, Canterbury; Kingsford, Flower & Pain, Ashford.

## Bill of indictment ineffective until it is properly signed

**Regina v Morris**  
Before Lord Justice, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Mcowan and Mr Justice Pill  
[Judgment March 8]

A bill of indictment preferred in accordance with section 2(2)(b) of the Administration of Justice (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1933 by leave of a judge of the High Court, even though bearing his initials, did not become an indictment until it was signed by the proper officer of the court as certifying, in accordance with section 2(1), that he was satisfied that the requirements of section 2(2) had been complied with.

The Court of Appeal so held when allowing an appeal by Carlton Morris from conviction at Snaresbrook Crown Court (Judge Southan and a jury) after a five-day trial last November on counts of supplying heroin to a co-defendant, Sophia Georgiou, conspiracy to supply a class A drug to persons unknown and possessing 154gms of heroin with intent to supply. He was sentenced to imprisonment totalling four years.

Mr Philip A. Walker, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr Duncan Munro Kerr for the prosecution.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that, after the appellant had been convicted and sentenced, the crown court discovered that the bill had not been signed by the proper officer of the court. The matter was referred to the judge who presided at the trial and so had come before their Lordships.

Counsel for the appellant submitted, in brief, no signature, no indictment; no conviction, therefore, trial invalid.

His Lordship said that, when section 2(1) provided that "where a bill of indictment has been so preferred the proper officer of the court shall sign it if he is satisfied that the requirements of the next following subsection have been complied with, sign the bill, and it shall thereupon become an indictment and be proceeded with accordingly," it was not merely a comparatively meaningless formality that the proper officer's signature should be appended.

It was, as the words of the Act indicated, a necessary condition precedent to the existence of a proper indictment that the bill should be signed. Only then and thereupon the bill became an indictment.

Therefore, there was no valid indictment, no valid verdict, no valid sentence. A fresh trial would be ordered before a different judge at Snaresbrook at the earliest possible opportunity.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Snaresbrook.

THE LORDSHIP said that the plaintiffs, Hawick Jersey International Ltd, had claimed repayment from the defendant, Michael Caplan, of a loan for £10,000 to be made by its director, Joseph Goldberg, by means of a cheque dated December 7, 1979.

The cheque was admitted but the defendant denied that the transaction was a loan because he had supplied £10,000 cash.

The procedural point arose as to the admissibility of transcripts from two conversations, taped without the knowledge of the plaintiffs, between the defendant and the director of the plaintiffs' company on December 12, 1985 and between the defendant and the director's son, Alan Goldberg, for the plaintiffs, shortly afterwards.

In the judgment there was no conclusion upon the true state of fact, the issue being whether or not material in the transcripts was subject to privilege under the "without-prejudice" cloak.

The defendant submitted that by reason of the content of the transcripts the "without-prejudice" privilege did not avail the plaintiffs for privilege could not be used as a shield for dishonesty. It was accepted by the plaintiffs that the written transcripts were accurate and in substance correct.

Two themes ran through each conversation. There were assertions and repeated assertions by the defendant that the transaction was not a loan but an exchange for £10,000 in cash. On no occasion did the plaintiffs deny that the defendant said anything but the truth and the

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could therefore manufacture in conditions which distorted competition.

That argument could not be accepted. It was sufficient to point out that the right to a fair return granted to the proprietor of a patent subject to a system of licensing of rights was intended precisely to award the proprietor recompense for the research costs he had incurred.

There were therefore no grounds for drawing a distinction according to whether the product marketed by the third party was manufactured in the national territory or in the territory of a member state where the product was not patentable.

Fourth question. The fourth question asked essentially whether the prohibition on imports might be justified on the grounds of imperative requirements relating to public health, consumer protection and fair trading, as recognized by the court in interpreting article 30.

The Court had consistently held that it was only when

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# Foster's four-way ticket to Wembley

Pleat's purchase three years ago of Foster, Nicholas and Mick Harford gave the team the backbone of a stegosaurus, and Ray Harford has wisely just developed the spikes. "We don't go looking for goals every time we have the ball now. It's a 90-minute game,"

Foster said.

He feels that the experience of the younger members of the side might need to overcome Arsenal in the Littlewoods Cup final could be gained by Luton's two earlier visits to Wembley.

Foster is sufficiently sensitive to appreciate the occasion no matter what the outcome. "I wouldn't have missed that replay against Manchester United for anything, even if we'd got beaten 20-0." A trifle avaricious

though it may sound, Foster and his team-mates feel that the FA Cup owes them a Wembley visit after semi-final and quarter-final defeats to Everton in recent years. And Foster does not give a XXXX who knows it.

**Clive White**

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**FBALL**

**under no**

**H**

● Gary Hackett, a winger, completed his £110,000 move back to English football yesterday.

## Sillett is under no pressure to sell

- Gary Hackett, a winger, completed his £110,000 move back to English football yesterday, signing for Stoke City eight months after joining Aberdeen from Shrewsbury Town.
- Ajax Amsterdam, without a coach since Johan Cruyff walked out two months ago, have named the West German Kurt Linder, as his replacement.
- The two-leg area finals of the Shropshire Trophy will start on April 12, when Doncaster

**peat victory**  
the initiative in the opening

**BRITISH COLLEGES:** S Carter (St Paul) and St Mary, Cheltenham), I Williams (N London IHS), D Hoff (WUHS), E O'Shea

**BRITISH POLYTECHNICS:** R Harris (Sheffield), D Hadfield (Huddersfield), R Downson (Newcastle), G Curry (Sheffield), J Richardson (Liverpool), P Malone (Kingston), G Peters (Newcastle), A Derbyshire (Sheffield), M Snowden (Leicester), M Ferguson (Sheffield), C

	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm) -	°C
ood ht snowfalls	varied	good	sun	-7
r	varied	good	fine	8

## SNOW REPORTS

od	varied	good	fine	-7
od	varied	good	-	-
od	powder	good	-	-8
od	varied	good	fine	1

od	powder	good	sun	-5
od	varied	good	cloud	-8
od	powder	fair	fine	-
od	crust	good	sunny	2

representatives of the Ski Club of Great U to upper, and art to artificial.

SWITZERLAND				
Crane Montana	105	200	good	varied

Lillehammer	120
Oslo	230
● Information supplied by the Norwegian National Tourist Office.	
<b>SWITZERLAND</b>	
Adelboden	110 140
Andematt	100 200
Arosa	115 150
Champéry	120 250
Engelberg	150 280
Grindelwald	70 200
Laax	100 180
Les Diablerets	100 200
Leyten	100 200
Portomaggio	50 160
Sass Fee	80 200

Excellent conditions; high avalanche risk  
Verbier 45 200 good powder  
Good powder skiing; upper slopes in excellent

**ISLAND**  
snow on a firm base; vertical runs, 700th  
hill and main roads, clear; snow level  
2 000ft. Forecast for winter cloudy with

<b>GERMANY</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>NORWAY</b>
Berchtesgarden	80	220	Gale

during the morning, some drifting in the fresh, locally strong, west to north-westerly winds. Outlook for tomorrow cloudy at first with outbreaks of rain with snow over the high ground; becoming brighter and colder with occasional showers falling as snow on ground above 500ft. Winds becoming northerly with the brighter weather.

Information supplied by the Scottish Meteorological Office.



## Luciano wears the Pelé shirt

By Andrew Longmore

It was a strange place to be looking for the next Pelé. Beaconsfield FC, with its wooden huts and muddy pitch, is not the Maracana Stadium at the best of times. But the names wearing the famous gold and blue warmed the hearts even if the cold, clear afternoon did not. Alberto, Emerson, Moises, Gancho, Luciano and 13 others, all members of the Brazilian under-15 squad, who arrived for the first tour to England ever undertaken at this level.

Only hours after stepping off the plane after a 10-hour journey and a 20°C drop in temperature, the Brazilians were going through a gentle routine in preparation for the opening match of their tour tomorrow at Wembley.

A little jogging and a five-a-side marked by the staccato rhythms of South America proved that skill, whatever the age, travels well. And at the heart of much of the skill, as of Brazilian teams for decades past, the No. 10 shirt — the number of Pelé, Zico and Rivelino, and the most coveted number in Brazilian football.

For the next three weeks that shirt will be worn by a dusky 14-year-old from the town of Campinas, Luciano is the son of a professional footballer. He lives next to a football pitch and first kicked a ball at the age of three.

"It is an honour to be given the No. 10 shirt, it always weighs a bit more than the others," he said. "My ambition is to get to the top. The wheels are just starting to turn."

Luciano knows little about English conditions and the English style. Only what he has seen on television. "I know Lineker because of his goals and, of course, I remember Barnes — his goal against Brazil," he said.

Luciano started with his club at the age of 10. The Brazilian clubs get their young — some start playing for professional clubs as early as six. Gancho, the captain and goalkeeper, shakes his head sadly. He only joined Flamengo at 12. All the boys are attached to clubs because there is no schoolboy football in Brazil.

Though they have little or no idea of what to expect — they only brought rubber-soled boots and had to be kitted out with studded ones yesterday — they did seem to have some idea of the English game. While in one half of the pitch the five-a-side continued, in the other half, the two goalkeepers practiced catching the ball. The English style? "Yes," Gancho said, beaming.

And Luciano? Was he looking forward to Wembley? "Very much. I would like to score a goal like Barnes — only making it look a bit better."

## Total police bill could be given to football clubs

By John Goodbody

thing would have to be coordinated."

At the moment the clubs pay only for policing inside the ground. Last season, this was a total of £3.65 million, a 16 per cent rise on the previous year and an average of just over 16p per supporter per match. The clubs paid 65 per cent of this figure and the Football Trust, which is funded by Littlewoods, Vernons and Zetters, the remaining 35 per cent.

However, the cost of policing away from the ground is met entirely by the taxpayer. This covers the control of city centres and railway stations, and also the activities of the British Transport Police.

Mason said the levels of policing were "significantly higher" than last year in Hampshire because of the promotions of Portsmouth and Aldershot and a disproportionate number of difficult matches in the early part of this season.

The total policing bill for the financial year March 1986-87 was £461,914, but from April 1987 to December 1987,

the latest date available, the cost was already £400,054.

Mason explained that there was no "down" on Portsmouth, who now owe the Hampshire Police Authority £7,083 for policing duties at Fratton Park, but that like all public bodies it was trying to increase its income.

He added: "Some people will ask why football should be penalized. After all, CND rallies, blood sports and horse-racing can also require large numbers of police. This all raises significant implications for authority."

Brian Davies, the Assistant Chief Constable of Hampshire, said: "Things that happen outside a private ground have always been regarded as problems that are to be handled by the public sector."

"Football is more emotive because there are more public order circumstances. Some people say that where one organization cause the problems they should be made to pay for them."

But he added that any attempt to charge clubs for the policing away from the ground would be "a drastic departure" of standard practice. "As a police body it is not something that we have instigated or can comment upon," Davies added.

● Notts County have joined Mansfield Town in disputing the policing charges inside the ground for matches.

### THE COST OF POLICING

Costs of the Police for Portsmouth, Southampton and Aldershot Football Clubs

	Total cost	Clubs' bill	Taxpayers' bill
March 1986-March 1987	£461,914	£216,472	£245,442
March-December 1987	£400,054	£87,186	£312,868

## O'Leary is ready to return

David O'Leary is ready to return to Arsenal's side for the FA Cup sixth round tie against Nottingham Forest at Highbury tomorrow.

The Republic of Ireland international centre-half has been troubled by an Achilles tendon injury but said yesterday: "It's fine now. I have trained all week without any problems."

Brian Clough is demanding an improved performance from his players, even though they won 1-0 at Sheffield Wednesday last Saturday. The Forest manager's one injury



FA CUP

doubt is the goalkeeper Steve Sutton, who has had flu. Manchester City expect their talented utility man, Paul Lake, to shake off a knee injury in time for Sunday's live televised match with Liverpool.

Dennis Wise, the Wimbledon forward, is standing by to return at home to Watford, but the former England winger, Laurie Cunningham,

could miss the match. Wise is available again after completing a two-match suspension but Cunningham is doubtful with a foot injury.

The Portsmouth manager, Alan Ball, has named the side beaten by Liverpool a fortnight ago for the visit to Luton Town. Whitehead is out with the thigh muscle injury he suffered in the last round and Gilbert, who took over from him at full back a fortnight ago in the defeat against Liverpool, will continue in the role.

Luton are hoping that their forward, Brian Stein, will be able to play despite breaking his wrist in the Simod Cup semi-final victory over Swindon Town. Luton may have to ask for an extension to their season. They are already seven League games behind their fixture list — two games lost to bad weather and five to cup commitments — and it will be tight if they beat Portsmouth tomorrow.

Success in the Simod and Littlewoods Cups means that Luton's secretary, Bill Tomlin, has had problems finding new dates for postponed games.

Foster profile, page 39

## Javer allowed to play for Britain

From Barry Wood, Boca Raton, Florida

Monique Javer, who was born and raised in the San Francisco area of California, has received permission from the International Tennis Federation to represent Great Britain.

The decision is based on the fact that her mother, Anne, is British, and Javer, aged 20, holds a British passport.

Ranked No. 164 in the world, Javer would be ranked fifth in Britain, based on the end-of-year computer listings from which the rankings are drawn. Thai players her above are Clara Wood, Valda Lake, Julie Salmon and Teresa Catin, all of whom are members of the Lawn Tennis Association Challenger squad.

While studying at San Diego State University before turning professional in September last year, Javer

won 35 of her 38 matches for the university last spring. She was also a member of the United States junior Federation Cup team.

"I have been careful not to accept any chance to play for the United States so that I wouldn't damage my eligibility to play for Britain," Javer said in Miami, where she is hoping to qualify for the Lipton International Players' Championship.

Meanwhile, in the Virginia Slims of Florida tournament here, Steffi Graf reached the quarter-finals by defeating Nathalie Tauziat 6-2, 6-1.

While studying at San Diego State University before turning professional in September last year, Javer

## Kelly wins and loses

Toulon (AFP) — Officials in the Paris-Nice cycle race, who got their sums wrong, had to ask Sean Kelly to hand back the leader's white jersey after yesterday's stage. It was restored to the British rider, Sean Yates.

Kelly, seeking his seventh successive win in this traditional seasonal curtain-raiser, had just been presented by a local beauty queen with a bouquet of flowers on the winner's rostrum. The officials then worked out that Yates, who finished the stage 2min 12sec behind Kelly, had

five seconds to spare on the Irishman. "I said I'd like to keep the lead until Thursday and I've done it," Yates joked. "By the skin of my teeth. I admit, but it's still great being leader for three days, even if Kelly takes over tomorrow."

RESULTS: Third stage (Salon de Provence to Toulon), 125 miles, 12 laps. A. Hampson (GB), 47min 47sec; S. Kelly (Ire), 47min 52sec; P. Simon (GB), 48min 01sec; A. J. Parson (GB), 48min 02sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 03sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 04sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 05sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 06sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 07sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 08sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 09sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 10sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 11sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 12sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 13sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 14sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 15sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 16sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 17sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 18sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 19sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 20sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 21sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 22sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 23sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 24sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 25sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 26sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 27sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 28sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 29sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 30sec; S. 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Yates (GB), 48min 41sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 42sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 43sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 44sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 45sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 46sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 47sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 48sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 49sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 50sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 51sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 52sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 53sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 54sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 55sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 56sec; S. Yates (GB), 48min 57sec;